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DIRECTIONS FOR OPERATING  
**THE DURABILT F. O. MINUTE BOOK**

(FLEXIBLE POSTS) SHORT PULL ROD STYLE

PATENT 967537—1019174—1056926—1247438—1247704—1738305  
ABOVE PATENT NUMBERS MUST NOT BE COVERED

**TO UNLOCK** the book, raise cover to be unlocked to a vertical position, and pull rod out as far as it will come.

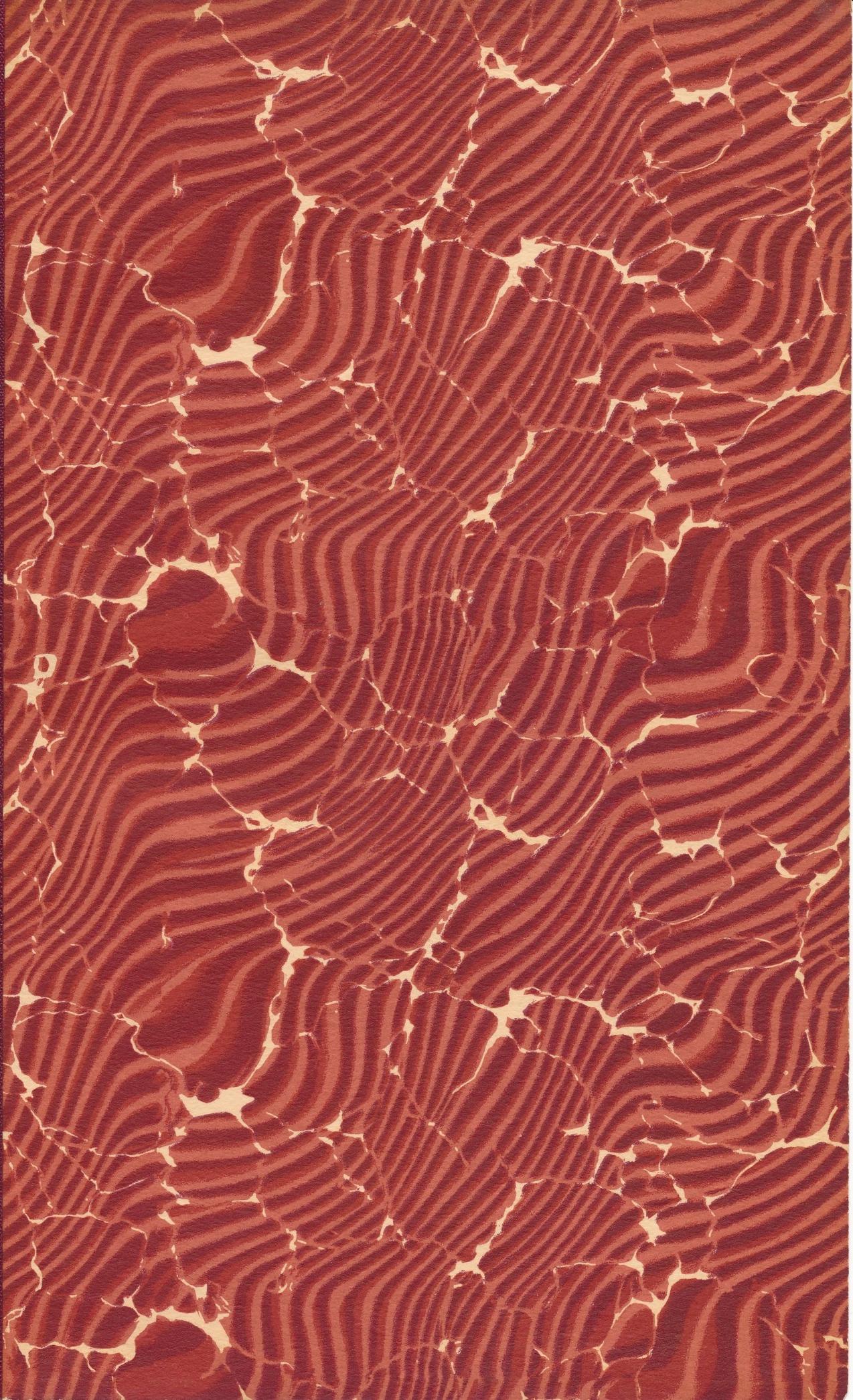
**TO LOCK**—Adjust the cover back into position so the notches in the cover fit over the posts, then push in rod.

Do not attempt to unlock either cover unless opposite cover is locked, as posts should always be held in one of the covers.

**TO LOCK BOOK PERMANENTLY**—This is only to be done when all the sheets are written up and placed in the binder, for once permanently locked, it is impossible to unlock or open it.

For this purpose two permanent locking buttons are furnished. Insert these sealing buttons into the round holes near end of locking case so that the slot in the Sealing Button runs lengthwise with the binder. Then drive in button with sufficient force to turn the ends of split button. This permanently locks and seals the book.

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# HISTORICAL DIRECTORY



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HISTORICAL  
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**Third Christian Reformed Church**  
CORNER PARK and WALNUT STREETS  
KALAMAZOO - - - MICHIGAN



Pastor, REV. JOHN MASSELINK, Th.D.



CONSECRATION



Back Row — Meyer, Vander May, Op'tholt, Stahl, Riepma.  
Middle Row — Kooi, Triestram, Nykamp, Bosker, Marcusse, Streich.  
Front Row — Poelstra, Westra, Dr. Masselink, Molhoek, Vredevoogd.

## **CONSISTORY**

Pastor, REV. JOHN MASSELINK, Th.D.

ELDERS	DEACONS
Peter J. Bosker	Albert Meyer
Daniel S. Kooi	John Nykamp
Neal Marcusse	Henry Op't Holt
Leonard Molhoek	George Stahl
Sam Poelstra	Harold Streich
Albert Riepma	William Vander May
Matthew Triestram	Orrin Westra
Henry Vredevoogd	

### **Officers of the Consistory**

President.....	Dr. John Masselink
Vice-President .....	Albert Riepma
Clerk .....	Matthew Triestram
Assistant Clerk.....	Sam Poelstra
Treasurer .....	George Stahl
Assistant Treasurer.....	William Vander May

### **Standing Committees**

BUILDING — M. Triestram, P. J. Bosker, N. Marcusse and W. Vander May.

MUSIC — H. Op't Holt, L. Molhoek, W. Vander May and S. Poelstra.

MEMBERSHIP — Pastor and elder in district of affiliating member.

USHERS — J. Nykamp, O. Westra and H. Op't Holt.

BULLETIN AND PULPIT — Pastor and Clerk.

FLOWERS — L. Molhoek and D. S. Kooi.

MISSIONS — A. Riepma and Rev. H. C. Bode.

LIBRARY — S. Poelstra, O. Westra and L. Molhoek.

SOCIETIES AND PROGRAMS — H. Vredevoogd, A. Meyer and D. S. Kooi.

FINANCE — G. Stahl, W. Vander May, M. Triestram and H. Streich.

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

The movement which resulted in the organization and establishment of the Third Christian Reformed Church of Kalamazoo began in the early spring of 1906.

Some of the older members were conscious that our young people were desirous of an English speaking Congregation, and consequently were leaving our Denomination to affiliate with other churches.

Accordingly, plans were laid and steps taken to organize an English speaking Congregation of the Christian Reformed Church, in our City.

Several members of the First Church were interviewed, and the movement began to grow, to the encouragement of the sponsors.

After about a year of preliminary work, a request was made to Classis Grand Rapids West for organization.

Classis appointed a committee for investigation, who brought in a favorable report, and a committee was appointed to perfect the organization. The evening of March 8, 1907, the committee, consisting of Rev. H. Beets, Rev. J. Timmerman, and Elder H. J. Grit, met with those who desired to join the new Congregation.

Rev. H. Beets presided and preached the sermon, which was based on Exodus 14-15, which reads, "Speak unto the Children of Israel that they go Forward."

At the close of the meeting, the committee completed our organization and the following became members:

Mr. and Mrs. R. Schuur and Family	Mr. C. Kreling and Family
Mr. and Mrs. M. Brink and Family	Mrs. J. Wierenga and Family
Mrs. John Glas and Family	Cornelius Bahlman
Miss Anna Vredevelde	Louis Bahlman
Miss Johanna Smith	Henry Bahlman
Mr. and Mrs. W. Hoek	Thomas Bahlman
Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Myard and Family	Sena Riepma
Mr. and Mrs. M. Ruster and Family	Jennie Kuilema
Mr. A. Boers	Mr. and Mrs. C. Nap and Family
Garret and Nellie De Jong	Mr. and Mrs. O. Dykhouse and Family
Mrs. A. TenBusschen and Family	Mr. Zaard Klimp and Family
Mrs. L. Hoekstra	Mr. and Mrs. H. Scholten and Family
Miss Jennie Hoekstra	Nellie De Smith
Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Vanden Berg and Family	Mr. Peter DeBoer and Family
Mr. and Mrs. H. Weesies and Family	Mrs. William Vander Broek and Family
	Mr. and Mrs. John Wagner and Family
	Mrs. H. Zuidema and Family

Four young people made Public Confession of Faith at this time.

At this meeting the first consistory was elected and consisted of Mr. W. Hoek, Mr. H. Weesies and Mr. C. J. Vanden Berg as elders; Mr. R. Schuur, Mr. George Myard and Mr. M. Ruster as deacons.

With faith and enthusiasm the small flock gathered at the Hall on the corner of Portage and Main Streets, for their first regular worship. Joy and gladness filled our hearts, peace and harmony prevailed, and it seemed as if we were experiencing the same united Christian Fellowship as the first Apostolic Church, when love predominated.

In spite of the fact, that we were small in numbers, yet in faith the congregation decided to at once proceed to procure a suitable location, and proceed to build a church where we could worship. After some deliberation as to site, our present location was decided upon, and we at once proceeded to build according to plans which had been drawn up and donated by friends of our cause.

Plans were soon made to call a Pastor of our own, and on the 6th of June, 1907, a call was extended to Rev. M. J. Bosma, then Pastor of the Broadway Christian Reformed Church, at Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Great was our rejoicing when, after careful deliberation, Rev. Bosma informed us that he would come over and help us. Plans were immediately made so that the parsonage might be in

readiness, and on August 9th, 1907, our first beloved Pastor was installed by Rev. H. Beets. A happy day for our congregation. On January 1, 1908, we dedicated our newly built church in the presence of a large audience.

Gradually the congregation grew in numbers, many realizing the need of an English speaking church, affiliated with us, and the labors of our pastor were signally blessed. After three and one-half years of fruitful labor, Rev. Bosma was stricken with illness, which necessitated a change of climate, and the Congregation gladly gave the Pastor a six months' leave of absence, praying and hoping the change would be beneficial, and that he might return to us in good health, to again resume his labors among us. However, God's ways were different than our ways, and Rev. Bosma, realizing that he would be unable to again shepherd us, sent us his resignation on May 20th, 1911.

After four unsuccessful attempts, Rev. J. C. Schaap was called and duly installed as our pastor on December 24, 1911.

The congregation had a steady growth during his ministry and we enjoyed his labors among us.

We were, however, not to possess our Pastor long, as Rev. Schaap's ministry was of short duration, and he accepted a call from Allendale, Michigan, leaving us in July, 1913.

Rev. D. R. Drukker became our next Pastor being installed on June 16, 1914. During his ministry among us, we enjoyed continued growth, not only in numbers, but also spiritually. Peace and harmony continued to prevail, and the labors of our Pastor were blessed. During Rev. Drukker's pastorate, the nation was plunged into the World War. Many of our young men, including the Pastor's son, and one daughter of the congregation, enlisted in the service of our country, and many prayers arose from our pulpit for their safety and the speedy ending of this great conflict. After four and one-half years of faithful ministry, during which time our new parsonage was built, Rev. Drukker bade us farewell on November 17, 1918, and again we were shepherdless.

After seven unsuccessful attempts to secure a Pastor, our eighth call was accepted by Rev. J. P. Battema and he was duly installed during February, 1920. A remarkable growth was experienced at this time, in fact we were unable to accommodate the audience, and a gallery was put in the church and a general remodeling of our basement took place in order to make room for Sunday School Classes and Societies. Our new organ was installed during this time. Many of our young people assumed their covenant obligations, many from the outside were brought in, and it was very evident that the Spirit was working in our midst. After five and one-half years of labor among us. Rev. Battema accepted the call to Wyoming Park.

After a vacancy of one and one-half years, Rev. John Maselink heeded our call and was duly installed on July 7, 1927, and has ministered to this flock faithfully and diligently until the present. During our present Pastor's stay among us, a large overflowing audience greets him at each appearance. Even though a large portion of three newly organized churches have gone out from us, we nevertheless can hardly seat our audience.

Peace and harmony prevail and a general interest is shown in Kingdom work. Many have been added to the church by confession and also a steady influx from other congregations. We may well say at this time, "Ebenezer, Hitherto hath the Lord helped us," and as Father Jacob has said, so may we well say looking back thirty-five years, "Alone did we start the movement, and lo, now have become as two armies."

May Third Kalamazoo ever continue to be faithful to her calling, may the gospel in all its purity ever be proclaimed from the pulpit, may it constantly be professed and practised by its members, and may the coming generations carry on the work begun by its founders.

Our hope is that it may be a beacon light for years to come.

#### Church Organized March 8, 1907

Consistory of 1907  
Pastor, M. J. BOSMA

#### ELDERS —

Mr. W. Hoek  
Mr. H. Weesies  
Mr. C. J. Vandenberg

#### DEACONS —

Mr. M. Ruster  
Mr. Geo. Myard  
Mr. R. Schuur



John M. Thom



John M. Thom



Ellen M. Thom.

Mrs. J. H. Thom

M R . & M R S .

J O H N M T H O M

1 8 8 1 -

1 8 8 6 -

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John M. Thom was born April 28, 1881, in Aberdeen, Scotland, son of George and Jessie M. Thom.

In 1899, John M. Thom enlisted in the Gordon Highlanders. He served in the Boer War from 1899 to 1902, under General I. N. Hamilton and was given a silver medal with four clasps, won by meritorious service in Cape Colony and the Orange Free States, under General Hamilton, and in the Transvaal under General Rundell.

When Generals Botha, DeWitt and Lucas Meyer surrendered to Lord Kitchener near Petermitburg in the Transvaal, April 28, 1902, Mr. Thom was with the Gordon Highlanders. At the time of his discharge at the close of the Boer War he held the office of Corporal. Instead of returning to "Bonnie Scotland" he went directly to Barre, Vermont, and engaged in the stone-cutting business.

While in Barre, he met Ellen McMinn, who was born in Bessbrook, County Armagh, Northern Ireland, November 3, 1886, daughter of John and Elizabeth



Graham McMinn, of Scotch-Irish descent. In 1898, the family moved to Barre, Vermont, where the family of nine children, five boys and four girls, attended school and noted that the teachers in the United States were not as severe as the teachers they had had in Ireland so that they reported to their parents that going to school in America was like going to Sunday school. After she was through school, Ellen McMinn worked in a telephone office and helped at home for several years until she was married to John M. Thom August 27, 1907.

Mr. and Mrs. Thom began housekeeping in Barre and resided there about eighteen months and then moved to Battle Creek, Michigan, where Mr. Thom engaged in stone-cutting with William McDonald for two years, after which they came to Kalamazoo and Mr. Thom was employed with the Kalamazoo Monument Company for seven years, 1912 to 1919, and then he went into the monument business for himself. Since 1917 they have resided at 636 Edwin Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Thom became the parents of:

Eleanore, born August 21, 1908, married Quentin Smith, became the mother of Graham Bradley, born [redacted]; Sherman Allen, born [redacted]; resides in Kalamazoo;

Russell, born September 9, 1911, died April 12, 1931.



When Mrs. Thom was a child she attended the John Wesley Chapel close by her home in Bessbrook, Ireland. She cherishes the memory of those early days and when she and her husband visited the old home in 1936 they went to the Chapel as to a sacred shrine. Mr. and Mrs. Thom have been members of the First Presbyterian Church in Kalamazoo for a number of years. She has served as President of the East Side Branch of the Women's Christian Temperance Union for five years and is an active member of the Helen Peck Missionary Society of the First Presbyterian Church.

On January 28, 1918, Mr. Thom enlisted in Windsor, Ontario, in the Canadian Engineers and was promoted while in England to first class machine gunner. He served in the World War on the Arras and Cambria fronts and was wounded at Cambria September 27, 1918, was evacuated to the hospital and was mustered out September 15, 1919, at which time he held the rank of Sergeant Major in Witley Camp Fourth Reserve Infantry Battalion. This was written in 1941.





Russell Winston Thom

R U S S E L L   W I N S T O N   T H O M

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Russell Winston Thom was born September 9, 1911, in Battle Creek, Michigan, the son of Ellen McMinn and John M. Thom. The father, John M. Thom, was of Scotch and English extraction and the mother of Scotch-Irish descent.

When Russell was about one year of age the family moved to Kalamazoo and Russell was educated in the Kalamazoo schools.

Russell was much interested in Scouting and became an Eagle Scout. He was also interested in music and played the cornet. He was a member of foot-ball and base ball teams in his school and enjoyed playing golf. In 1930 the State High school won in foot-ball from Grand Haven and the "Highlander" for 1931, which was dedicated to the memory of Russell Thom, refers to his part in the game as follows:

"The Cubs first victory over Grand Haven was won, not by mere weight or deceptive plays, but by the cool-headedness and superb generalship of Russell Thom."

Russell Thom was a member of the First Presbyterian Church and Sunday school and was a fine example of wholesome Christian living.

He died April 12, 1931.

## IN MEMORY

Perhaps the path ahead was dark with sorrow,  
Perhaps God planned for him a glad tomorrow.  
This world could never give him Heaven's bliss,  
There is no earthly joy that he will miss.  
His painful days are over...Now he sings,  
In harmony with all celestial things.

He will not know the broken heart's dull ache  
Or tragic night when grieving parents wake  
In loneliness too difficult to bear.  
The tranquil hours of Heaven he will share,  
Growing in happiness, while the long years  
Blot out bitterness and dry our tears.

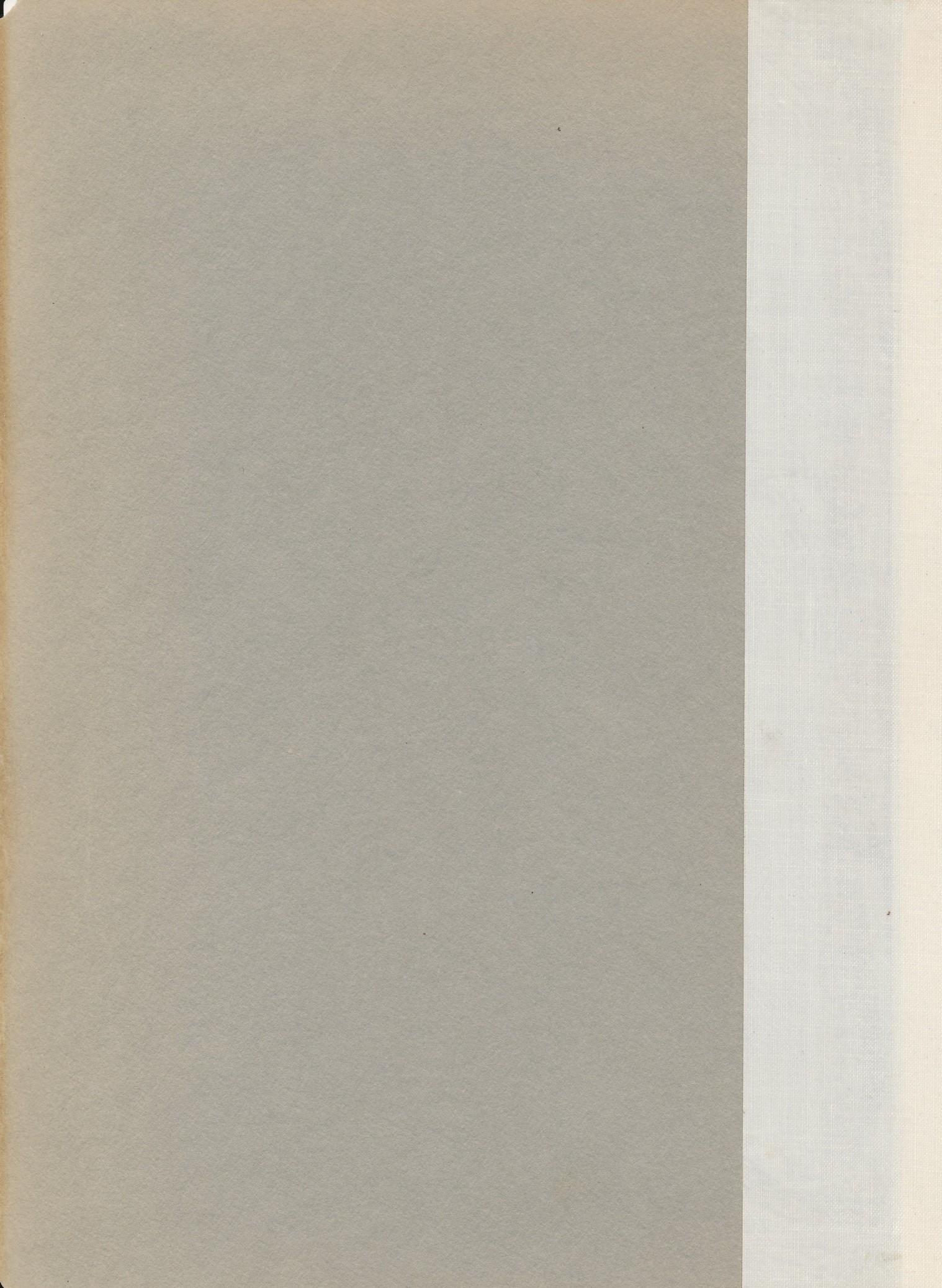
Because he went ahead, now Heaven seems  
Only a step beyond our cherished dreams.  
His youthful hand has lifted up the veil  
Between two worlds, and we will never fail  
To find the mountain path, the upward flight  
That leads to where he dwells on Heaven's height.

- Anne Campbell





Kel. County Three Quarters Century Club



THE KALAMAZOO COUNTY THREE QUARTERS CENTURY CLUB.

The Kalamazoo County Three Quarters Century Club was sponsored and organized by John F. Muffley, and William F. Montague. The organization was effected, December 5th, 1934, by the election of the following officers, viz: John F. Muffley, President, W. T. Waite, Vice-President, W. F. Montague, Secretary, and H. B. Crane, Treasurer. With a charter membership of thirty. The primary objective of the club, is to make old folks HAPPY.

It costs nothing to become a member of these altruistic clubs. There are no membership fees, no dues or assessments asked. The receipts from the mite box, are ample for all our small operating expenses. Only those who are able make voluntary contributions. Churches and public buildings, usually offer assembly rooms, rent gratis. Our business men also extend the club many courtesies.

The club is governed by a simple constitution and by-laws, and has three classes of membership. Full, associate and honorary. To qualify for full membership, one must be in their 75th year, associate, in their 70th year. Exceptions are made in favor of



younger wives. Certificates of honorary membership are issued at the option of the clubs officers.

The club meets every alternate Wednesday afternoon, for a two hour session. We have a short business meeting, the necessary committees, with a program of entertainment and instruction, and a "speaker of the day". The meetings are opened by our Chaplain, with scripture and prayer, followed by singing, and closed with a benediction and hymn.

The club, got away to a flying start, and is growing by leaps and bounds. At this writing we are only ten months old, and have 210 names on the roster. So far the grim reaper has only taken away eight of our members.

With our brief experience, we not only commend, but URGE most earnestly that communities everywhere, make life brighter for their elderly citizens, by helping them promote clubs of this kind.

October 28, 1935.



W I L L I A M   A D A M S

( 1 8 5 3 -

William Adams was born near the village of Logan, Ohio, March 24, 1853. His parents were Leah Snyder and Benjamin Adams. His father was of Scotch descent and his mother, of German.

He was reared in the country and as a boy helped with the chores. He attended school until he had completed the tenth grade at the high school at Decatur, Michigan.

He grew to manhood in the vicinity of Decatur and began farming there.

On December 20, 1880, he married Leila A. Pollard at Decatur. To this union were born three children: Earl W., deceased; Beulah, deceased; and Bertha, now Mrs. William Huff.

Mr. Adams has been a life long Democrat holding at various times the offices of Village Marshall, Highway Commissioner of Wayne Township, Cass County, and Justice of the Peace for that township.

He is also a member and is a past officer in all branches of the I. O. O. F. and is also a Past Chancellor in the Knights of Pythias.



S O L O N   B E N B O W

1 8 5 3   -

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Solon Benbow was born in Flat Rock, Indiana, April 7, 1853, son of Martha Jane Martindale and Julius Caesar Benbow, who was born June 28, 1821, was married May 1, 1845 and died June 18, 1912. Martha Jane Martindale Benbow was born October 24, 1824 and died in July, 1902.

The brothers and sisters of Solon Benbow were:

Leonidas Warren, born June 1, 1846, resides in Winamac, Indiana;

Mary Elizabeth, born July 24, 1847, married Frank Wilson and is deceased;

Miles Martindale, born February 21, 1849, died in February, 1938;

Elijah Bishop, born January 9, 1852, died February 18, 1930;

Isabelle Ann, born January 24, 1855, died September 27, 1860;

Margaret Evangeline, born August 6, 1856, in Iowa, died July 29, 1883;

John Martindale, born July 19, 1858;

James Boyd, born May 7, 1860;



Kathryn Levina, born January 1, 1862, resides in Monrovia, California; married George Murphy;

Benjamin Franklin, born October 27, 1863, died September 24, 1864;

Martha Alma, born August 19, 1865.

When Solon Benbow was about four years of age the family moved to New Castle, Indiana, which is about four miles from Flat Rock, and Solon attended school there.

In 1868, Solon, at the age of fifteen, went to work for the Simon P. Jennings Hardware Company in New Castle and remained in that company until some time after his marriage, which was in 1877.

About 1882, Mr. Benbow became a travelling salesman for the Henderson Kahn Company of Cincinnati, his territory being in Iowa and Missouri and the West. After about two years he entered the employ of the Markley Allen Hardware Company of Chicago and was assigned the territory of the state of Michigan. For two years he resided in Chicago and then came to Kalamazoo in 1887, continuing with the Markley Allen Company.

November 20, 1888, Mr. Benbow became a representative of the Northwestern Mutual Life



Insurance Company. He sold a policy on the first day he was with the company and during the fifty years has delivered thousands of policies and placed more than \$5,000,000 worth of insurance in force.

December 20, 1877, he married Martha Bowman Hinshaw of Knightstown, Indiana. She died July 18, 1917. They were the parents of:

Jessie, born July 7, 1887, married Erwin C. Arndts, September 1, 1909, resides in Cleveland, Ohio; they have a daughter, Gretchen Louise, born March 26, 1916;

Margaret Evangeline, born September 14, 1889, married William Philip Boettger, August 26, 1916, has a son, William Benbow, born April 1, 1920;

Solon Holmes, born January 9, 1893, married Marie Wilkins in 1914, resides in Detroit, Michigan;

Anna Louise, born August 13, 1895, married William H. Reifsnyder December 25, 1915, has a son, Solon Boyd, born March 14, 1921, resides in Kalamazoo.

November 18, 1918, Mr. Benbow married a second time, Alice Childs Sherwood, of Lawton, Michigan. She died March 12, 1933.

Mr. Benbow used a very unique business card which was very appropriate for an insurance salesman. It consisted of cuts of his four children



in early childhood.

For a time Mr. Benbow attended the Baptist Church, but when he moved to 421 Woodward Avenue he joined the Simpson Methodist Episcopal Church with his wife who was a Methodist.

Mr. Benbow is a life member of the Masonic Blue Lodge No. 87, and is a charter member of the Three-Quarter Century Club. In politics he is a strong Republican.

Mr. Benbow is highly respected and a citizen with a fine record. He is remarkably well preserved for his years and takes a keen interest in affairs.



WILLIAM HENRY BLANCHARD

(1858 - 1947)

William Henry Blanchard was born May 28, 1858, in Van Buren County, Michigan, son of Ester Finch and Volney Blanchard. His mother died when he was three weeks old and he was reared in the country by his aunt, attending several Van Buren County schools.

At the age of sixteen, it became necessary for him to earn his own living, so he obtained work as a farm hand. At one time, he was engaged as a butcher in Schoolcraft, Michigan.

On September 6, 1882, he was married to Alice Dolbee in the village of Mattawan. They were the parents of Lena Mae Boyer, Ralph L., Iva Belle Buell, Emily Ester Geren, James W., Ira W., and Milton E. Blanchard. One of his sons was killed in France during the World War, JAMES.

March 6, 1930, Mr. Blanchard was married to Mrs. Cora Walley Phelps.

His religion is that of the Golden Rule which he practices daily, aiding many people in whatever way he can.

He votes for the candidate whom he believes will do the most in behalf of the working man.

He enjoys baseball games and dancing.



C L A R A   J A C K S O N   B U R N S

( 1 8 5 8 -

Clara Fairbanks was born in Richland Township, Kalamazoo County, June 13, 1858, daughter of Olive Mills and Alonzo Fairbanks. Her father was a direct descendant of Jonathan Fairbanks who built the house in Boston known as the "Old Fairbanks House". It is of historic renown, having the distinction of being the oldest frame dwelling house now standing in America.

For a number of years, Miss Fairbanks did dress-making in Richland.

In 1878, she was married to William Jackson. They resided on a farm in Overisel Township, Allegan County, until 1888 when they spent one year in Kansas. Called home by the illness of her father, they settled on a fruit farm at Silver Creek, near Plainwell.

They were the parents of two sons: Oscar B., born January 3, 1886, died at the age of seventeen, and Alonzo Earl Jackson, a rural mail carrier at Richland.

Mrs. Jackson later became Mrs. Burns. She has spent many years as a practical nurse.

She has been an active member of the W. C. T. U. and of the First Presbyterian Church.



H A R V E Y   B A I L E Y   C R A N E

( 1 8 5 0 - 1 9 3 7 )

Born in Lycoming Co., Pa., November 27, 1850, son of Hannah Criswell Bailey and Michael Quiggle Crane, of English and Irish descent.

He was brought up in the country and developed a love for the out of doors which inspired him to write in later years, hunting and fishing stories and to plant trees. He attended the district school and the Wewt Branch High School.

In 1868, he began work as a store clerk in Columbia, Pa., and later worked in a coal yard, a manufacturing and oil refining business and at milling and lumbering. He also owned and managed a hotel in Wisconsin for a number of years.

He served at various times as school clerk, Post Master, Notary Public and on the Chamber of Commerce.

He was a member and held office in the Masons, Elks and Modern Woodmen; belonged to the Y. M. C. A., the Red Cross, was a member of the Democratic party and an active member of the Protestant Episcopal church. He was also secretary of the Three Quarter Century Club.

June 22, 1872, he was married to Miss Isabel Hancock. They were the parents of Benjamin F., Bessie, Harvey B., Jr., and Isabel E. He died 1/12/37.



J O H N   C .   F R A M E

( 1 8 5 6 -

John C. Frame was born September 30, 1856, in Berrien County, Michigan, son of Jesse Frame and Susana Ransted. His father was born in Germany, migrated to America and died in Berrien Co., and his mother came from Ohio.

Young John grew up in the country, attending the Bertrand Township school and assisting his father on the farm where they lived. He acquired a love for tilling the soil and for nature. When he chose as his life's work, the selling of stock and farm produce, he was influenced by this early association and training.

He was married at Buchanan, Michigan, May 8, 1881, to Miss Sarah Ann Leonard. They were the parents of two sons: Martin and James Frame.

Mr. Frame held the office of Vice President in the Farmer's Alliance at one time, was a life long member of the Republican party and a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In later years, his hobby has been his attendance at baseball games.



P E R C I E   S C H U G   J O H N S O N

( 1 8 6 3 -

Percie Edith Schug was born January 13, 1863, in the village of Flowerfield, Michigan, daughter of Sarah Ann Smith and Ruben Schug. The girl was one of five children.

She was educated in the Flowerfield schools and later attended Devlin's Business College at Jackson, where she later taught. At one time, she was bookkeeper at the Globe Brass Works in Detroit and at The Home Furnishing Company in Detroit.

She was married February 28, 1883, to James William Johnson.

Mrs. Johnson has always been active socially, at one time was President of the Ladies Library Association in Schoolcraft and has filled many offices in various church societies.

She is very fond of travel, having toured extensively by airplane, ships and train, both here and abroad. She is also fond of sports.



B E L L E   J A C K S O N   L I T T L E  
( 1 8 5 4 — 1 9 3 6 )

Belle Jackson was born June 30, 1854, in Richland, Michigan, daughter of Lucinda Knappen and Stillman Jackson of English and Welsh descent.

The young girls' earliest desire was to become a school teacher, an example set to her by an older sister. She attended school in Richland and high school in Kalamazoo and soon was able to attain her goal. She taught for twenty years in Richland, Kalamazoo and Muskegon.

In 1900, at Richland, she became the second wife of Henry Little, a farmer living near Richland. He died November 15, 1928.

Mrs. Little is a member of the Commonwealth party, the W. C. T. U., an active member of the Presbyterian church, teaches in the Sunday School and belongs to the Missionary Society.



A G N E S   M A X T E D   M I L L H A M

Agnes Maxted was born in Kent, England, the daughter of Elizabeth Tyles and Henry Maxted. She was reared in this village and as a young girl enjoyed the ball games that the village afforded, a hobby that continued through her life. She was also fond of sewing.

She attended school in Kent and later chose nursing as her life work.

On April 19, 1884, she was married to Mr. Millham at Kent, England. To this union were born six children: Richard, Louis, Ernest, Mrs. Edith Vander Lyke, Mrs. Elizabeth Daugherty, and Mrs. Agnes Lamoreaux.

Mrs. Millham is now a member of St. Luke's Protestant Episcopal Church and a member of the Three Quarter Century Club.



C L A R K   C H E S T E R   O T I S

( 1 8 5 6 -

Clark Chester Otis was born in Vermontville, Michigan, March 6, 1856, son of Elizabeth Morgan and Norman Leonard Otis.

As a child, he helped with the work of the farm on which the family lived and attended the district school. He was determined to secure for himself an education and believes that this determination, coupled with his mother's prayers, influenced him to secure his A.B. degree from Olivet College and his B.D. degree from Yale Divinity School.

Soon after graduating from divinity school, he became affiliated with the American Home Missionary Society and served in various capacities for seven years. He then served as deacon and pastor in the Congregational Church until ill health forced him from such an active life. Then he was associated with various real estate and insurance businesses.

December 28, 1881, he was married to Mary A. Read. Four children were born to them: Florence, Harrison G., Walter R., and Arthur F. Otis

Mr. Otis' hobbies are base ball games, checkers and chess.



## R O S A L I A    B I T T I G    R U D O W

Rosalia Bittig was born in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, daughter of Rosalia Mavig and Alexander Bittig. Both of her parents were of Prussian descent.

She was reared in various cities, attending school in Dubuque, Iowa.

On October 4, 1871, she became the wife of Mr. Rudow.

Mrs. Rudow has been a trustee and a member of the choir of the Liberal Church. She is affiliated with the Republican political party and for forty-four years has been a member of the Twentieth Century Club.

W O D U R O I T T I S A I L A V O Y

• fossils stilling was born in October, Wisconsin  
• conductor to fossils was Alexander Mather.  
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On October 4, 1871, she passed  
Mrs. Hubbard  
the fossils and a friend and a member of  
the Hubbard Club, who is a collector  
with the Hubbard Collection until  
long years past a member of the Hubbard  
Geological Club.

S A R A H   C A S T O R   S M I T H

( 1 8 6 1 -

Sarah Catherine Castor was born May 24, 1861, at Arlington, Ohio, daughter of Mary Cross, born in Ohio and William Castor, born in Pennsylvania.

When Sarah was five years of age, her people settled on a farm near West Bangor, Michigan, where Sarah attended the Wood School. Later she attended the Hick School near Lawrence.

December 31, 1876, at Lawrence, Michigan, she became the bride of Mr. Smith. To this union was born one child, Bertha Lewella, now Mrs. Brown. The young couple settled on a farm near Bangor until the year 1891 when they moved to St. Cloud, Minnesota, where Mrs. Smith became affiliated with the First Baptist Church and the Ladies Aid Society of that church.

In 1897, the Smiths moved back to the farm in Arlington Township, Michigan, where they resided until 1930 when they sold this farm and moved to Paw Paw, Michigan.

Since the death of the husband in 1931, Mrs. Smith has resided with her daughter at 711 Stuart Avenue, in Kalamazoo.



L U C I E N   H A R D I N G   S T O D D A R D  
( 1 8 5 5 -

Lucien Harding Stoddard was born in Williamson, New York, May 28, 1855, son of Laura Jane Sanford and Asa Harding Stoddard, of English descent. The family moved to Cooper, Kalamazoo County, Michigan, where the boy helped with the farm chores and attended school. After graduating from the district school, he spent one year in the preparatory department of Kalamazoo College.

At twenty-one years of age, the young man worked for his brother on the home farm and the next year began general farming and fruit growing on the home farm at Cooper.

On June 15, 1882, Mr. Stoddard married Lavinia Adell Pease at Comstock, Michigan. They were the parents of Ellsworth F., Mrs. Minnie Reckard, Mrs. Grace Mason, William A., and Mrs. Jane Hagle.

For many years Mr. Stoddard was a member of the grange and for a time was lecturer of the Pomona grange. At one time he was affiliated with the Republican party and has always been a staunch advocate of Prohibition.

He has been a member of the People's Church in Kalamazoo for a number of years.



R U F U S   M .   W A I T E

( 1 8 5 9 - 1 9 3 7 )

Rufus M. Waite, born June 20, 1859, in Almena Township, Van Buren County, died December 13, 1937. He was reared in the country and attended the rural school. At the age of nineteen, he began teaching school, working on a farm in the summers.

October 2, 1884, he was married to Lottie Lidden. They were the parents of nine children: Mrs. Frances Whelan, Mrs. Harriet Sieberg, Elgie, deceased; Elsie, deceased; Harley, who married Mrs. Alma Flegal; Mrs. Pearle McConnell, Mrs. Esther Idale Meade, Bertie, deceased; Mrs. Theo Whetham.

For many years, Mr. Waite served as building superintendent of the Y.M.C.A. and then for twenty years served in the same capacity at the First Baptist Church.

He was a member of the Maccabees, the I.O.O.F., the Red Cross, the Republican party and a devoted member of the First Methodist Episcopal Church.

At one time he served as Township School Commissioner, Township Supervisor and Justice of the Peace.

He greatly enjoyed listening to the radio and attending ball games.



E M M A   S E A R L E   W I L L I S

( 1 8 5 9 -

Emma J. Searle was born March 23, 1859, at South Butler, New York, daughter of Charles A. Searle and Caroline Woolsey.

Emma was reared in the country, attended school in Alamo and Otsego, helped with the house work and developed an aptitude for sewing by which she later earned her living.

On October 6, 1880, Miss Searle was united in marriage to William D. Willis. They were the parents of Mrs. Bessie Mae Dietrich; Mrs. Bernice Reynolds; Mrs. Frances Strang; Ralph G.; Charles P.; Donald T. Willis.

About 1890, the Willis family moved to Kalamazoo where Mrs. Willis later united with the Portage Street Baptist Church. She is a member of the Woman's Relief Corp and the Social Rebeccas, No. 35, is affiliated with the Republican party and is a member of the Three Quarter Century Club.

Mrs. Willis' great hobby is piecing quilts. She has made many very beautiful ones.

She now resides in Kalamazoo at 1840 Miles Avenue.



Sarah Ann Eaton Tickner



S A R A H   A N N   E A T O N   T I C K N E R

1 8 5 1   -   1 9 4 2

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Sarah Ann Eaton was born October 17, 1851, the daughter of Ebenezer and Susan Tink Ross Eaton and was the last surviving member of a family of twenty-one children.

She was married July 3, 1873, in Galesburg, Michigan, to Frederick Tickner, who was born October 24, 1841, in Lewis, England.

The couple moved to Cleveland, Ohio, where they lived for a few years and then moved to Oriville, Ohio, and later to Bucyrus, Ohio, and then to Logansport, Indiana.

After about thirteen years spent away from Kalamazoo county, they returned to the city of Kalamazoo to make their home.

They became the parents of:

Susan, who became a school teacher and is deceased;

Hazel, who died at the age of two years;

Mary P., who married LaVerne V. Shellman and resides near Comstock, Michigan;

Alice L., who married J. Lee Hart and resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan;

Harry J., who resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan.



For many years Mr. Tickner was day clerk at the old Kalamazoo House and at the time of his death May 13, 1904, he was City Health Inspector.

Mrs. Tickner, in her girlhood, attended the early wilderness pioneer schools in Otsego township and later in Comstock and Alamo townships and at times during those early years of her life the family lived in Ohio and Indiana.

At the time of her death she was a member of the First Baptist Church of Kalamazoo, Michigan, and also a member of the Home Defenders Society.

In personal appearance, Mrs. Tickner was of medium size with dark hair and eyes and an attractive bearing. She was fond of music and good literature. When she was able she spent much of her time with her flowers and her garden. She was of a retiring nature and preferred to meet her friends in her own home. With her friendly manner and welcoming smile, she drew many friends to her warm heart.

Mrs. Tickner lived to welcome into the world five grandchildren: Harry L., and Leon J. Shellman; of Comstock, Michigan; Leon V. Hart of Kalamazoo, Michigan; J. Lee Hart, Jr., of Phoenix, Arizona; and Medard Tickner of Battle Creek, Michigan. She also had eight great-grandchildren: Mrs. Charles F. Bowers,



Mrs. Edwin J. Pollard, Richard, Henry, Vernon, Vernelle and Veloise Shellman, all of Comstock, Michigan. She had one great-great-grandson, Kerry Lynn Pollard of Comstock, Michigan.

Mrs. Sarah Ann Tickner passed away August 7, 1942. Funeral services were conducted by the Reverend T. Thomas Wylie, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Kalamazoo, Michigan.





25 - N obingon -

A. M. Todd

A L B E R T M A Y T O D D

1850--1931

"Who's Who in America," Vol. 15, sketches briefly the life history of Albert May Todd and lists the many organizations with which he was affiliated. This biography is written to add the human interest touch not possible in a more limited space.

The following tribute to Mr. Todd, written after his death by one who knew him well, reveals the impression which his life had made:

"Mr. Todd was a man of wealth who chose to devote his fortune as well as his life's energies to the cause of the general welfare rather than to personal gain and aggrandizement. He was a man of leisure who chose to spend his time in travel and study of social and civic problems, accumulating vast stores of vital facts and information which he put permanently into public service and made available to all.

"He was a man of artistic and scholastic attainments and spent a part of his fortune and much time and effort collecting rare and beautiful works of art and literature which he installed in



museums and art galleries open and available to the public. He was a man of social influences and civic power devoted unstintingly to the public weal. And above all, he was, through his long life of service, the friend and patron of every good cause that makes for social and civic progress and human betterment...

"Two years a member of Congress of the United States; fourteen months spent in foreign countries studying their institutions and achievements, especially cooperation and public ownership; a member and active supporter of many works on public problems and always vigorous and effective in the support of all progressive movements -- here was a real man of the people, faithful soldier of the Common Good, valiant prophet of the Better Day."

In the business world, Mr. Todd was known as the founder and president of the A. M. Todd Company, engaged in growing aromatic and medicinal plants and extracting their essential oils and alkaloids. Because of his activity in making Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana the largest mint-growing section in the United States, people often referred to him as "The Peppermint King."

It was in connection with his study of improv-



ed methods of refining Peppermint oil that he discovered how to isolate Peppermint crystals, Menthol. This discovery placed him in the front rank of American scientists who invited him to join their organization and to take part in their scientific researches. The products of his Company are now shipped to many foreign countries and are widely used at home and abroad in the manufacture of chewing gum, confectionery, dental preparations and many medicinal preparations.

The varied interests which Mr. Todd pursued in later years may be traced for their inception back to childhood influences. His father, Alfred Todd, was a man of sterling integrity and great industry. Alfred joined the Westward Movement in 1838 when he brought his little family from Marcellus, New York, to the rich prairie farm land of Nottawa Township, St. Joseph County, Michigan. The Todd Family had always sought new frontiers. A progenitor, Christopher Todd, 200 years before, left Yorkshire, England, to help found New Haven, Connecticut, and his descendants in later generations moved on to New York State and then to Michigan.

Albert May Todd's mother, Mary Ann Hovey Todd, inherited an unusually keen mind. At an early age a devoted uncle, surnamed May, begged the privilege of



educating her and she went to live in his home. He gave her the best education possible in her day. When, at the age of 19 years she married Alfred Todd, she brought to her home a student's knowledge of history and an enviable acquaintance with classics of literature, ancient and modern.

Albert was born June 3, 1850, the last of ten children. During the long winter evenings in that pioneer home, the mother read to her children stories of long ago. Their horizons stretched farther and farther away to the lands of the Greeks and the Romans, and they knew the thrill of the siege of Troy and the doings of the mighty Caesar. The father, too, contributed to their store of knowledge, and from him they learned to read the Bible and to speak knowingly of Moses, of Daniel, of Christ and of Paul.

Mention is made of these things because, when Albert May Todd realized his dream of travel, he sought those classic lands of childhood, and studied their ruins, their arts and their literature. When he collected his library, he included in it as many of the Greek and Latin Classics in their original editions as he was able to obtain. He had editions of the Bible in several versions, including the "Complutension Polyglot." His artistic instinct led



him to purchase books covering the development of printing and fine bookbinding. He bought many bird books of the famous naturalist, Gould, illustrated with hand painted pictures. History, poetry, science, economics, biography and natural history helped to swell the book collection until it reached over 10,000 volumes, the cherished heritage of his wife and children.

Foreign travel quickened Mr. Todd's interest in public affairs. When as a youth of 17 years, he trudged with staff and knapsack over a large part of Europe, he became convinced that public utilities under public ownership and operation were more efficient than those under private ownership, and that they contributed greater service to more people at less cost. Subsequent trips to Europe in more mature years strengthened this belief. He spent much time and money collecting data on the subject and working to prove this theory to the American people. This led him to become the leader of a group of publicly-minded citizens organized under the name of the Public Ownership League of America. His contribution and effort had much to do in stimulating interest in Public Ownership in a favorable way.

In politics Mr. Todd was a reformer. He believ-



ed that a clean mind in a clean body promoted the highest type of manhood and the greatest happiness. Personally, he neither smoked nor drank, and he worked to outlaw the liquor traffic. In 1894 he ran on the Prohibition ticket for the Governorship of Michigan. Two years later, on the Democratic ticket, he was elected to the United States Congress, winning many votes in a strong Republican district. During the campaign of that year he toured the country in part with William Jennings Bryan, then Democratic candidate for President. A warm friendship held these two men for many years. Many other men of national and international reputation were guests in his home or correspondents on subjects of public policy.

On January 23, 1878, Mr. Todd married Augusta M. Allman of Sturgis, Michigan, a sweetheart of high school days. Her interest in his achievements and her inspiring companionship through happy days and hard ones did much to round out his life of usefulness. With her he talked over his plans and together they worked out their problems. In their early married days she worked with him experimenting with chemicals which led to his scientific discovery. Pots, pans and kettles ruined, and musses in her immaculate kitchen, did not count so long as her



husband won success. As the children came, the responsibility of managing the home fell more and more upon her. Her wonderful executive ability, her strong sense of humor, and her abundant love endeared her to her husband and to her children, as well as to a large circle of friends. At this time (November, 1935) she still carries on in her sweet, smiling way.

The children numbered five: William Alfred (deceased), Albert John, Ethel May (Mrs. Edwin Le Grand Woodhams), Paul Harold and Allman. All of them worked with their father in the development of the A. M. Todd Company and continue as active members of the firm. When Mr. Todd realized that his health was failing, he turned his business over to his children and placed the larger part of his art collection in public institutions, the latter including the Public Schools of Kalamazoo, Western State Teachers College, Kalamazoo College, Nazareth College, and the Kalamazoo Museum and Art Institute.

Mr. Todd died October 6, 1931, at his home in Kalamazoo, 620 West South Street. He is buried in Mountain Home Cemetery, Kalamazoo.

(The foregoing was written in 1936)



George Gerald Topoll



G E O R G E   G E R A R D   T O P O L L

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George Gerard Topoll was born in Chicago, Illinois, May 21, 1918, the son of Michael Joseph and Wanda Olkerwicz Topoll, both of whom were born in Poland, Michael, September 20, 1886, and Wanda, September 9, 1896.

Michael came with his relatives to Chicago, Illinois, when he was ten years of age, and Wanda came with her parents to Chicago about 1905. They were married in Chicago September 21, 1913, where they resided until September 1920, when they moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where Michael died December 8, 1936.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Topoll were also the parents of:

Henry Raymond, born in Chicago, Illinois, August 30, 1914, was married September 18, 1938 to Stella Cichon, who was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, January 6, 1916, the daughter of Leonard and Magdalene Piaseck Cichon - Mr. and Mrs. Henry Topoll became the parents of Donna Christina, who was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, [redacted], and her godfather was her uncle, George Gerard Topoll;

Walter Thomas, was born in Chicago, Illinois, March 7, 1920, was drafted into the United States Army December 28, 1942, and is now,



in 1943, in London, England.

All the Topoll boys attended St. Augustine Parochial School and Central High School in Kalamazoo. After they were graduated from High School, Henry attended Michigan State College and Western Michigan College of Education, and George took two years in Western Michigan College of Education, after which he took two years in the University of Michigan and was graduated from the course in business administration June 15, 1940.

He then returned to Kalamazoo and engaged in the grocery business which his father had established and was managed by his mother after the father's death. George remained in the store until his enlistment in the United States Air Corps, his being the first enlistment from Kalamazoo.

George Topoll was first sent to Cimarron Field, Oklahoma, for ten weeks basic training, then to Randolph Field, San Antonio, Texas, and was graduated from Kelly Field, San Antonio, receiving his wings October 30, 1941. He was then assigned to a pursuit plane, went to Charleston, South Carolina, on maneuvers for a few weeks, and reached San Francisco, California, around Christmas time, to be shipped overseas early in 1942. For ten months he was on patrol duty over the Fiji Islands. He met his death when his plane crashed into Guadalcanal bay



April 6, 1943.

George Topoll was five feet, four and one-half inches tall, with light hair and blue eyes. He was a good student, excelled in mathematics. He was fond of good clean sports and played a good game in golf, tennis and hand ball. He liked to hunt and fish.

George enjoyed music and played the violin very acceptably in an orchestra, to which he and his brothers and cousins belonged. He belonged to the Polish Boy Scouts and was a member of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Kalamazoo. He had a rare talent for making friends and keeping them. Every one who knew him spoke of him with deep regard as a friend. He gave great promise of a brilliant future. He was of a happy nature and of an even temperament, kindly and brotherly in his home life. He fulfilled the ideal of Christian manhood in sparing not himself in service.

The following excerpts from letters written by officers in the War Department and some of his comrades in service show the high esteem in which he was held:



May 10, 1943.

Dear Henry,-

Just received your letter of April 15th requesting details of George's death. I cannot write you all the facts about it now, but will do so when I return to the states; which should be in a few weeks. I can say, however, that I was flying with him at the time, in fact was about one hundred feet above him when he crashed. His body was recovered and we gave him a nice burial. The grave is marked with a large concrete slab in which is embedded a propeller blade with name, date, etc. The grave's registration authorities will, no doubt, notify you exactly where it is.

I lived with Top for a year and a half during which time we became good friends. We were teamed up in combat for a couple of months after that and I've never known a more dependable or better flyer. His jovial nature and ready smile always made him popular in any group and he was always a favorite in our squadron. Of course we all know that our number will come up some day, but Top set a precedent, not only in fighting, but in work or play too, that is hard for any of us to beat in our short span of life on this earth. You can be proud of him as we are.

I hope to be home in a few weeks, Henry, and I have yours and his mother's addresses, so will write you or come up to see you just as soon as possible. I saw that the proper authorities had Top's personal effects, which will be sent to his mother.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph F. Moore

In another letter to Miss Basinski, Mr. Moore wrote on May 12, 1943:

"We flew together almost all the time. He saved my neck a couple of times when it was pretty rough going. When he went down it was due to some structural failure in his ship and none of us - not even Top himself could help it."



June 20, 1943

Dear Miss Basinski:

Your letter of April 27th has just caught up with me here in Washington. I'm sorry to crush whatever hope you may have had about George - but he did die on April 6th. He was trying to bring his plane, which was giving him trouble, into the field, when it failed him and he fell into the bay just off Guadalcanal.

His body was recovered and every man - officer and enlisted man - attended his funeral. He was laid to rest with full military honors, in the cemetery just off Henderson Field. I wrote to you at the time, or rather to his mother - apparently you, or she, never received my note. I'll repeat what I said then.

George and I flew together for over a year. On two occasions he saved my life. He flew on my wing through over a hundred hours of combat and thanks to him, I never got a scratch. We lived together most of the time and he was my friend. So - you see - I, too, miss him badly.

As you meet others through the years, who knew and fought beside George, you'll learn that I do not exaggerate when I say he was one of our finest fighting men -- his Silver Star and Distinguished Flying Cross are testimony to that. So too, is the memory we all hold of him.

I know you grieve for him but please, don't feel he went in vain because he certainly did not. You have every right to be proud of him: I know I am.

He lies buried a long way from home but he and all the boys who lie beside him rest in heroes graves - believe me.

Those of us whom George left behind, miss him badly but are determined to carry on his fight and make his sacrifice worth while by winning! I'll write again soon - til then, in sympathy,

Signed (Tom Lanphier)



APO 708, % Postmaster,  
San Francisco, California  
May 30, 1943.

Mrs. Wanda Topoll,  
537 East North St.,  
Kalamazoo, Michigan.

My dear Mrs. Topoll,

This letter is written in regard to the death of your son George. Knowing how you must have missed him, not having him with you for the past seventeen months, I will try in this letter to give you as much information as possible about his work, accomplishments and new friends that he made during this period.

George joined my Squadron at Hamilton Field, California, in January 1942, only a few days before we sailed for foreign service. The problems that arose in trying to establish a fighter squadron on an island base where all normal facilities are non existing were many and varied. These conditions, however, were ideal for the purpose of making a quick and correct decision as to the capabilities and character of junior officers who before leaving the United States were unknown to me. In the short period that was necessary to get our squadron operating as an efficient combat team George proved that he was a willing and capable officer, winning the respect of his fellow officers and also of the enlisted men of the Squadron.

During the months that followed he was tireless in striving to train himself and later the officers and men under him to the highest possible point in combat efficiency.

From January to November 1942, George rose from one of the junior members of the squadron to Squadron Engineering officer and Flight Commander.

In December 1942 we moved into one of our advanced bases where we were in daily contact with the enemy. I found George to be loyal, aggressive, and determined to do his utmost to strike the hardest possible blows against our enemies. Many glowing stories have been written about the great spirit and tenacity in which the members of the Polish race have resisted their oppressors. In all his actions George certainly lived up to this tradition.

When George was killed he was trying to get his airplane back to the field while having trouble with his engine. Having been witness to the accident I am certain that his death was partially due to trying to



save his plane.

His funeral was attended by all of his many friends and a Catholic Priest performed the ceremony.

I can truthfully state that I have never had a better friend or served with a more trustworthy officer than George.

If in any way I can do anything to assist you, you may get my address by writing the Adjutant General, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C., or my home address for the next several months will be 4201 Walnut Hill Lane, Dallas, Texas.

Sincerely yours,

Henry Viccellio,  
Lt. Colonel, Air Corps.

WAR DEPARTMENT  
Army Service Forces

Office of the Adjutant General

Washington

19 July 1943

Mrs. Wanda Topoll,  
537 East North Street,  
Kalamazoo, Michigan.

My dear Mrs. Topoll:

I have the honor to inform you that, by direction of the President, the Silver Star, with an Oak-leaf Cluster, which indicates a second award of the same decoration, has been awarded, posthumously, by the Commanding General, United States Army Forces in the South Pacific Area, to your son, First Lieutenant George G. Topoll, Air Corps, for gallantry in action.

The award of the Silver Star with an Oak-leaf Cluster is in addition to the Purple Heart. The records show that you were recently informed of the posthumous award of the Purple Heart to your son for having made the supreme sacrifice in defense of his country.

The Silver Star with an Oak-leaf Cluster will be forwarded to Headquarters, Army Air Forces, Washington D. C., for presentation to you, and that office will



communicate with you concerning your wishes in the matter.

May I again express my deepest sympathy in your bereavement.

Very truly yours,

J. A. Ulio,  
Major General,  
The Adjutant General.

George G. Topoll, (o-429139), First Lieutenant, United States Army Air Corps, for gallantry in action while participating in an aerial flight against the enemy on March 29, 1943. As pilot of a P-38 in a flight of five P-38's and one F-4U fighter airplanes, Lieutenant Topoll took off from a base at Guadalcanal on a mission to destroy a concentration of enemy aircraft. He reached the target area in spite of such adverse weather conditions that ten other fighters which took off on the flight lost contact and were forced to return to their bases. He participated in the attack in such a manner as to surprise the enemy anti-aircraft installations and to avoid their heaviest concentrations of fire. Six enemy float airplanes were destroyed on the water. On the return trip the flight located an enemy destroyer. Lieutenant Topoll unhesitatingly accompanied the flight in an attack, making four passes at this objective, causing the destroyer to sink. The sound judgment and superior airmanship displayed by Lieutenant Topoll contributed directly to the achievements accomplished by this flight.

22 June 1943.

My dear Mrs. Topoll:

The President has requested me to inform you that the Purple Heart has been awarded posthumously to your son, First Lieutenant George G. Topoll, Air Corps, who sacrificed his life in defense of his country.

The medal, which you will receive shortly, is of slight intrinsic value, but rich with the tradition for which Americans are so gallantly



giving their lives. The Father of our country, whose profile and coat of arms adorn the medal, speaks from it across the centuries to the men who fight today for the proud freedom he founded.

Nothing the War Department can do or say will in any sense repair the loss of your loved one. He has gone, however, in honor and in the goodly company of patriots. Let me, in communicating to you the country's deep sympathy, also express to you its gratitude for his valor and devotion.

Please believe me,

Sincerely yours,

Henry L. Stimson

George G. Topoll was one of twelve fighter pilots of the 13th Air Force who in twenty-nine days averaged sixty-five combat hours per man in the Solomon Islands.

Participating in one hundred and one combat missions from December 23, 1942 to January 20, 1943, when fighters were scarce on Guadalcanal, each pilot took part in at least forty missions. The twelve pilots flew a total of 751 hours and 45 minutes of combat during this period for the amazing average of 65 hours per pilot without loss or injury to a man.

During those 29 days the squadron destroyed eight enemy aircraft in the air and fifteen on the ground, their own planes returning undamaged aside from the loss of one fighter plane due to mechanical failure over water.



During the same period they escorted 25 bombing missions to enemy air fields on New Georgia island, a distance of between 130 and 140 miles from their base. On not one of these missions did a Japanese fighter get a shot at the American bombers, although they were once attacked by 12 enemy float planes. On this occasion, an escort mission against an enemy task force off New Georgia, all 12 of the enemy fighters were shot down.

The squadron also operated as dive bombers during the same period and sank two cargo vessels. They dive-bombed Japanese troops on Guadalcanal, executing four missions perfectly, according to Major General Joseph L. Collins. Four enemy strongholds were wiped out, 17 machine gun nests destroyed and 200 Japanese killed. This dive bombing, the dispatch read, was carried out under most exacting conditions since the enemy were not more than 30 or 40 yards from United States troops. Despite this, none of the United States troops were touched.

On the broken propeller blade taken from the wrecked plane in which he crashed, embedded in the concrete slab over the grave in which he lies, is the following inscription:

"Lt. George G. Topoll,  
"70th US Fighter Squadron  
"Killed April 6, 1943."





Matilda L. Towsley

M A T I L D A   L   T O W S L E Y

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Matilda L. Towsley was born in Niagara County, New York, on a farm, February 12, 1831, daughter of Wealtha Dean and William Towsley, of English descent.

Matilda L. Towsley was a brilliant child. At the age of three she learned to read and at five read stories from books. She was educated at the Academy in Lewiston, New York, graduated from Milton College, Milton, Wisconsin, in 1860 and from the Women's Medical College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1869.

For a time Miss Towsley taught school in Wisconsin. After graduation from medical college she did hospital work in New York and Boston.

Dr. Towsley came to Kalamazoo, Michigan, in 1869, resided at 809 South Rose Street until her death, and practiced medicine in this city until about 1905.

Dr. Towsley was at one time a member of the Plymouth Congregational Church, but later transferred her membership to the First Presbyterian Church in Kalamazoo. She was also a member of the Ladies' Library Association and belonged to the Republican party.



Dr. Matilda Towsley had six brothers and two sisters: Oscar Towsley of Galesburg, Michigan; Dr. L. D. Towsley of Philadelphia, an abolitionist with a price placed upon his head, an agent of the "Underground Railway"; Octavia, who married Mr. Townsend of Wisconsin; and Almore Henry Towsley.

Dr. Matilda Towsley helped to educate a number of nieces and nephews one of whom, Elma Blackman, lived with Dr. Towsley from the time she was fourteen years of age until Dr. Towsley died.

Elma M. Blackman was born in Cambria Center, Niagara County, New York, July 25, 1861. When she was three years old her family moved to Galesburg, Michigan, where they lived two years. The father was freight agent. The family then moved to Richview, Illinois, where the father owned a fruit farm. In January 1876, Miss Blackman came to Kalamazoo and went to live with Dr. Towsley. Elma graduated from Central high school in 1881 and from the University of Michigan in 1887. She then taught school in Schoolcraft, Michigan, for two years. From 1889 to 1898, she taught in the public school at Coldwater, after which she went to teach in the public schools of Ann Arbor, Michigan, for four years. In 1902 she taught for one year in Ottumwa, Iowa. In 1903 she



came to teach in the English and History departments in the Central high school in Kalamazoo, and continued there until 1919.

Miss Blackman is a member of the Ladies' Library Association; was chairman of the program committee for two years and vice president for one year; was a member of the Y. W. C. A. board several years; belonged to the League of Women Voters and held several offices and was in charge of publicity for a number of years; a member of the Alumnae of the University of Michigan; a member of the College Women's Club, out of which grew the American Association of University Women, and belongs to the First Presbyterian Church.

Dr. Towsley and Miss Blackman travelled extensively in the United States and Dr. Towsley was injured in an accident in the White Mountains.

Dr. Matilda L. Towsley died April 20, 1915. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend Doctor Henry Gelston of the Presbyterian Church and burial was made in Riverside cemetery.

The Academy of Medicine adopted the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, The All-wise Father has removed from our midst Dr. Matilda L. Towsley, a physician of Kalamazoo for many years, and



a woman at all times interested in philanthropy and social improvement;

"THEREFORE, Be it resolved that we recognize in her death the loss of a woman of sterling qualities, a pioneer among women physicians, and an ever willing Christian worker;

"RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Kalamazoo Academy of Medicine, of which she was so long an active member, honoring her name and memory, emulating her example of loyalty and service to humanity, sympathizing with her family and friends in their bereavement, remind them of the faith of the departed -  
"For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place  
The flood may bear me far,  
I hope to see my Pilot face to face  
When I have crossed the bar."

Written October 17, 1936



Harry Albert Travis



H A R R Y   A L B E R T   T R A V I S

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Harry Albert Travis, one of Kalamazoo's splendid citizens and successful business men, was born on his father's farm in Barry county, Michigan, October 22, 1878, the son of James H. and Sophia J. Oatman Travis. At the time of this writing, in 1944, two of his sisters, Mrs. Mae T. Exner and Mrs. Ralph Beebe, reside in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and a third sister, Mrs. James Miller, is deceased.

Harry attended the rural school near his childhood home and later took about two years work in Kalamazoo College, after which he worked for a few years on his father's farm. He then went to Indianapolis, Indiana, for a time, and was employed in a carriage factory as a striper, painting the stripes on carriages.

Later he engaged in carpentry in Kalamazoo, Michigan. In 1912, he built the house at 1803 Oakland drive and on November 12th of that year he was married in that home to Myrtle D. Exner, daughter of John and Louvina Wall Exner.

Mr. Travis was the father of:

Viola Mae, who married John Witters and became



the mother of Robert John and Geraldine and resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan;

James D., who married Borgia Doyle and became the father of James Michael and resides in Burbank, California;

Daniel F., who married Margaret Talbot and resides in Plainwell, Michigan;

G. Frederick, who married Madaline Owen and resides in Los Angeles, California; and

Harry Exner, who was an instructor in Los Angelos, California, in the Aircraft Administration from April 19, 1943, until January 1, 1944.

About 1908, Harry Albert Travis bought the Crescent Engraving Company business and remained with that company as its president until 1929, when his health began to fail and he sold his interest to Guy Wilson, whom he had taken in as a partner a few years after purchasing the business.

About 1932, Mr. Travis purchased the Bissell farm in Richland township, where he and Mrs. Travis resided until 1940, except for one year, 1939, spent in California. The farm fields were rented to neighboring farmers and Mr. Travis cared for the lawn and garden;

In 1940, Mr. and Mrs. Travis returned to 1803 Oakland drive in Kalamazoo and remodelled the house into two apartments, residing in one of them until his death and where Mrs. Travis still makes her home.



### Personal Appearance

Mr. Travis was very particular about his personal appearance, selecting his wearing apparel with the best of taste and keeping it in the best of condition. He was five feet eight and one-half inches tall and weighed about one hundred sixty pounds. He had dark brown hair turning gray and blue eyes. He was of a ruddy complexion, sprightly in manner, but quiet and reserved.

He usually voted the Republican ticket but was independent enough to vote for the best man if his name was under another party label.

Mr. Travis hated shady dealings in business transactions and was the soul of honesty. He and his wife were members of the First Congregational Church in Kalamazoo and belonged to the Pilgrim Club of that church, the club being made up of the older married people.

He was fond of his family and home and took delight in the flowers in his garden. He was a citizen of whom the people of Kalamazoo may well be proud and one who was ever ready to help in all projects for its growth and prosperity.

Death came to Harry Albert Travis December 21, 1943. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend William A. Keith, D. D., and burial was in Riverside cemetery.



Mary Walker Travis



MARY WALKER TRAVIS

1854 - 1938

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Mary Walker was born on the farm which her father had taken from the government in 1836, located in the township of Cooper, Kalamazoo County, Michigan. The farm was later owned by her brother, Cyrus Walker, and at the time of this writing, 1939, is occupied and owned by the family. Her mother was Octavia Cunningham.

Mary Walker was graduated from the Michigan Female Seminary at Kalamazoo July 1, 1875, and was married to James M. Travis at Cooper November 25, 1880. Mrs. Travis resided in Plainwell for fifty years and for twenty years prior to her death she was librarian of the Ransom Library in Plainwell. Mr. Travis died in July, 1913.

Mrs. Travis was a devout member of the Presbyterian Church in Plainwell and held the office of a deaconess in that organization.

Mrs. Travis was a widely read woman, whose mind was keen and blessed with a finely balanced judgment. She was known and loved for her broad sympathies, for her love of people and of the world about her. She

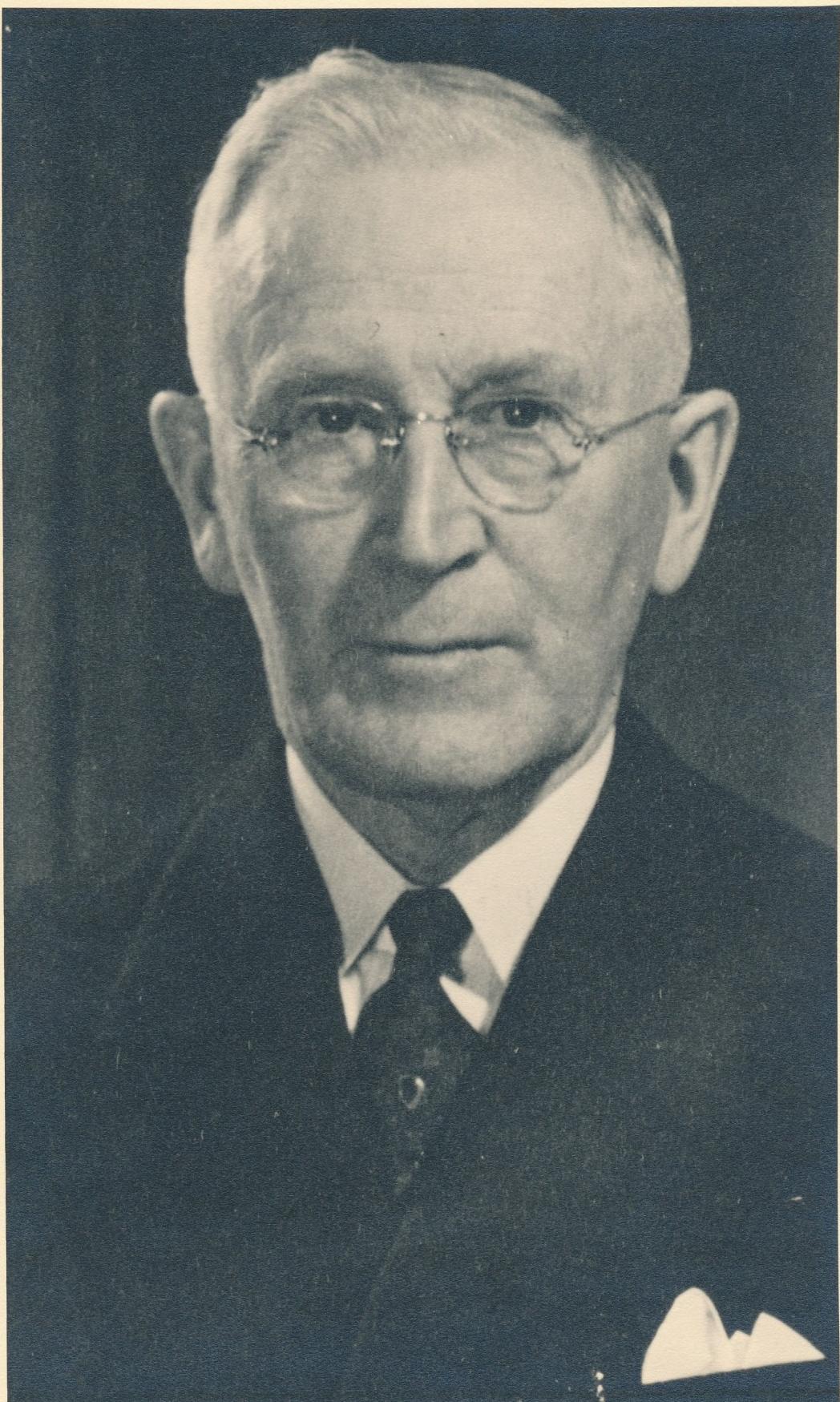


was a member of the D. A. R. Death came to her Thursday morning June 2, 1938. The funeral was from the Presbyterian Church in Plainwell and was conducted by the pastor, the Reverend A. G. Beard, assisted by the Reverend Mr. Bates of Concord, Michigan. Burial was in Cooper cemetery.

Mrs. Travis was survived by two nephews, Leon Walker of Cooper and John Walker of Washington, D. C., three sisters-in-law, Mrs. Lydia Walker of Cooper, Mrs. Julius Beal of Ann Arbor, Michigan, and Mrs. Frank Travis of Plainwell, Michigan.



George Packard Trusteesale



G E O R G E   P A C K A R D   T R U E S D A L E

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George Packard Truesdale was born in Rochester, New York, January 10, 1870, son of Albert B., and Amelia Packard Truesdale. The family moved to Michigan when George was seven years of age, residing first in Texas township, later in Mattawan, where as a boy and young man George Truesdale assisted his father in a general store.

He attended the schools in the neighborhoods in which the family made its home and later was a student in Parsons Business College in Kalamazoo, Michigan. In preparation for his profession as a mortician, Mr. Truesdale enrolled with an embalming school in Chicago, Illinois, and completed the prescribed course.

In 1896, he came to Kalamazoo, Michigan, and opened his first funeral home nearly across West Michigan Avenue from the Young Men's Christian Association building. In 1900, he made a trip to England and France for the Boekhout Chemical Company, lecturing and demonstrating the use of an embalming fluid produced by the company.



About 1912, Mr. Truesdale moved his business to 445 West Michigan Avenue, where it grew to be one of the outstanding services of its kind.

Mr. Truesdale was a member of the Rotary club, various Masonic lodges, the National Select Morticians, and the National and Michigan Funeral Directors' Associations.

He was married June 26, 1901, to Nina M. Lum, who survived him, as did also a cousin, Mrs. Fannie Ketchum.

Death came to Mr. Truesdale at his residence on West Michigan Avenue March 23, 1942. The funeral services were conducted by the Reverend William C. Perdew, pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal Church and burial was in Mountain Home cemetery.





Oscar Stuart Trumble

O S C A R   S T U A R T   T R U M B L E

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Oscar Stuart Trumble was born in Davison, Michigan, September 30, 1878, son of Lillia Ball and Abram Melvin Trumble. He was reared on a farm, attended rural school, received the degree of Bachelor of Arts from the University of Michigan in 1906 and the degree of Master of Arts from that University in 1909.

Mr. Trumble began his teaching experience in rural schools. Prior to 1906 he taught in the junior high school in Grass Lake for one year. From 1906 to 1908 he was principal of the high school in Cheboygan and he taught history in the high school at Jackson, Michigan, from 1909 to 1925, when he came to Western State Teachers College as a teacher of history until his death.

Mr. Trumble wrote "American History Outlines", which was published, and he had completed the manuscript for another book. He was an ardent member of the Exchange club and was an elder in the First Presbyterian Church of Kalamazoo. In politics he was a Republican. He was fond of athletic sports



and enjoyed playing golf.

June 27, 1905, Oscar S. Trumble married Jessie Blanche Herbison, who was born in Bath, Michigan, daughter of Isadore McFarren and Joseph Herbison.

Mrs. and Mrs. Oscar S. Trumble were the parents of two children: Donald Charles, born August 14, 1907, married Loraine Snyder of Harvard, Michigan, resides 806 Southworth place, Kalamazoo; Melvin Joseph, born August 13, 1911, resides in Kalamazoo.

Death came to Oscar Stuart Trumble September 10, 1936. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend John Wirt Dunning, D. D., and burial was in Riverside cemetery.

The Teachers College Herald published the following tribute:

"The brightness of the new school year is dimmed by the death of Professor Oscar S. Trumble. In his passing Western loses one of its best teachers, Kalamazoo an outstanding citizen, his family a devoted husband and father, many of us a friend tried and true.

"Professor Trumble was a superior teacher. He possessed in large measure the three essentials of a great teacher of the social sciences, broad scholarship, acquaintance with the best techniques in teaching, and that understanding heart which comes from active participation in the life of one's time. To him teaching was more than a profession; it was a life work which he loved. In the class room his work was carefully planned, thorough, attractive. Ever a student himself, he taught his students the



art of study and made them want to do their best.

"On the platform Professor Trumble was pre-eminent. A clear, forceful, interesting public speaker, his addresses on public questions were always carefully prepared, instructive and illuminating.

"To his colleagues and students Oscar Trumble was ever a friend, frank, candid, understanding, loyal. They trusted him because he was always trustworthy.

"Oscar Trumble was a man above reproach. His life was animated by good will and abounded in good deeds. He was a man of faith - faith in God, faith in himself, faith in his students, faith in his work. His keen strong mind was controlled by a high sense of duty and sustained by an unselfish courage.

"Trumble is not gone. He lives in those he taught. He has joined the good and great of the ages of whom it has been truly said: 'In him who feels their passion they survive'".

Written July 30, 1937.



Theodore Franklin Tyler



T H E O D O R E   F R A N K L I N   T Y L E R

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Private Theodore Franklin Tyler was killed in action in Germany December 3, 1944.

He was inducted into the United States Army at Fort Sheridan May 3, 1944. His serial number was 36976248. He was an infantry rifleman in Company C, 9th Battalion, 377th Infantry Regiment, 95th Division.

Theodore received his basic training at Fort McClellan, Alabama. He came home on furlough in September, 1944, and left for overseas about November 1, 1944, and landed in England. From there he was sent to St. Lo Valley in France and then into Germany where he was first reported missing in action and later as killed in action.

Birth and Education

Theodore, generally called "Ted", was born in Corning, Arkansas, February 4, 1920, son of Leo Delos Tyler, who was born July 3, 1878, and died February 5, 1939. He was of English, Irish, Dutch and Swedish ancestry. He was a resident of Coldwater, Michigan, and went to Corning, Arkansas,



where he met and married Parlee Boquest, who was born February 14, 1895, and they became the parents of Ted and also the following children: Mrs. Virgie Cail; Mrs. Elsie Cross; Mrs. Opal Abraham; Mrs. Geneva Salvaggio; Corporal Emery Tyler, who was discharged in 1945; Erma; Viola; Florene; Leo, Jr.; James; Charles; Jeanette; Penelope and Patricia. Ted also had three step brothers; Marvin, Pearl and John Tyler.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Delos Tyler were married in Corning, Arkansas, September 23, 1910, and came to Michigan in March, 1924, and resided at 1052 Roy avenue in Kalamazoo, Recreation Park.

Ted attended the Recreation Park School and was graduated from there, after which he found work at Moore's Garage on East Vine street in Kalamazoo, where he worked for eight years. For short periods he also found employment at the Sutherland Paper Mill, the Checker Cab Company and the Haydite Tile Company.

#### Marriage

April 1, 1939, Theodore Franklin Tyler was married to Bernice Marian Kemp, who was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, February 5, 1920, daughter of Welch James Kemp of English descent, and Bessie Mary Cooper Kemp of German ancestry. W. J. Kemp was



from Augusta, Michigan, and his wife had been a resident of Otsego, Michigan. They also became the parents of: George, William, Forrest, James, Woodrow, Fern, Merriell and Margaret, all residing in Kalamazoo, Michigan, except James, who lives in Hayward, California.

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Tyler were married in Kalamazoo, Michigan, by the Reverend Lynn Young and began housekeeping in Comstock, Michigan. Later they purchased a home at 817 Regent street, where Mrs. Tyler resides with her children at this time in 1946. The children are: Theodore Franklin, Jr., who was born [redacted], and William Delos, who was born [redacted].

#### Personal Characteristics

Ted enjoyed outboard boating and liked boats of all kinds and all kinds of water sports. He occasionally went deer hunting and also hunted small game.

He was five feet seven inches tall, robust in build, and had light brown hair and hazel eyes.

He was a home boy, seldom going out after work except occasionally to a movie. He was a happy young man, pleasant faced, with an honest, open countenance. He was buoyant and full of energy for his work. He took pride in the appearance of his



home yard and always kept the lawn well cut. He was a good provider and had an ambition to work hard and get ahead. He was kind and courteous toward others and devoted to his family. He attended the Wilson Memorial Methodist Church occasionally.

Ted Tyler was a promising young man, who hated war and wanted to stay at home and take care of his family. But when duty called he felt that he must do his part.

Chaplain Homer W. Thompson wrote to Mrs. Tyler:

"It is with deep regret on the part of all associated with your loved one that we write concerning your and our loss. As you know, Theodore was killed in action on the 3rd of December 1944. His body was laid to rest with appropriate Protestant ceremonies in an American Cemetery located here in France. This cemetery is being made as beautiful as such tragic circumstances will permit. His grave is marked by a modest Christian Cross bearing his name and other pertinent information. A Protestant Chaplain offered prayers and committed his body to the ground to await the day of glorious resurrection. When security and censorship permit, information regarding the place of burial may be had by writing to The Quartermaster General, ASF, Washington, 25, D. C."

Later Mrs. Tyler received word that Ted's body was buried in Grave 9, Row 4, Plot Q, in the United States Military Cemetery in Limey, France, which is located approximately 16 miles east of St. Mihiel and 15 miles north of Toul, both in France. This cemetery is under constant supervision of the U. S. military personnel.





James T. Upjohn

— H. S. Robinson —



D R. J A M E S T O W N L E Y U P J O H N.

Dr. James Townley Upjohn was born in Richland, Michigan in 1858, the youngest of 12 children born to Dr. Uriah Upjohn and Maria Mills Upjohn, who were among the pioneer settlers of Kalamazoo County, where they lived in Richland and Kalamazoo during their active lives, except for a brief sojourn to Iowa.

All but one son, who died in infancy, grew to maturity and were mostly heads of families of their own, well known in Kalamazoo.

Jim, as familiarly known, being the youngest of twelve children, suffered some early embarrassment for want of a name. He well remembers when, about three years old, he resented longer being called "Bub", and in open rebellion pursued his father, the old doctor, demanding that he be given a name. Whereupon, James Townley, two old family names, were assigned to him, and the shortage of names to go around so large a family, was promptly overcome.

The boy, James T., received training in the public schools of Richland and Kalamazoo, where he grew to young manhood.

In 1876 the father of this numerous family,



which by then had largely gone from home, purchased the C. B. Brown farm in Richland, to which he removed from Kalamazoo and retired from the practice of medicine. The young son, James, assumed management of the large farm at the early age of eighteen years, with the aid of his next older brother, Fred, who spent only a part of his time on the farm, and continued to manage affairs successfully for a period of seven years until he had accumulated sufficient money to put himself through the University of Michigan with a comfortable surplus. He entered the University in 1883 where he continued uninterruptedly until his graduation in 1886 when he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine.

In September 1885 at the beginning of his senior year he was married to Carrie L. Barnes, daughter of Alvin B. and Caroline Barnes of Richland, and immediately following his graduation in 1886 he entered the practice of medicine and surgery with his oldest brother, Dr. Henry U. Upjohn, in Kalamazoo, where the latter had been practicing for about twenty years.

Following the death of Dr. H. U. Upjohn, Dr. J. T. became associated with his brothers, Dr. W. E. Upjohn and Fred L. Upjohn in the organization of the Upjohn Company for the manufacture of pharmaceutical



preparations. These three brothers held the controlling interest in the stock of the company and Dr. W. E. was made president, Dr. J. T. vice-president and manager of production, and Fred L. treasurer. Later on Dr. J. T. Upjohn was made treasurer in addition to his other duties and continued to devote his entire time to the interests of the company for twenty-two years and contributed largely to its success during this formative period, after which he voluntarily withdrew from the company.

During the next few years Dr. J. T. Upjohn devoted his energy largely to his real estate interests by platting and selling two large subdivisions in and near Kalamazoo, and in the development and sale of a mile of shore line known as Idlewild on Gull Lake where more than fifty families now convene every summer for resort activities, Idlewild having the longest shore line of any subdivision on Gull Lake.

All these ventures were successful and in addition, he sold profitably and managed an earlier purchase of 50,000 acres of timbered land in Northern Michigan, scattered through nearly every county in the Northern Peninsula, and purchased at a primary school land sale. Title to these lands rested in Dr. J. T. Upjohn although they were partly



owned by Mr. H. H. Everard, now deceased.

Dr. J. T. Upjohn's first wife died in 1919, leaving four children: Mrs. Florence Smiley of Grand Rapids; Mrs. Amelia Winkworth of Monroe; Ralph T. Upjohn, San Diego, California; and James Robert Upjohn, Monroe; all of whom are heads of families, with a total of fourteen grandchildren. One daughter, Ruth, died at fourteen years of age.

Dr. Upjohn married Isabel Gillies, daughter of Mrs. Helen Gillies, Kalamazoo, in 1921, with whom he is living in the old home, 229 Stuart Avenue, in Kalamazoo, and their comfortable summer home at Idlewild, Gull Lake. He has traveled quite extensively in South America and Europe as well as in our own country and has been quite heavily interested in the paper industry of Michigan, particularly in Detroit, Munising, and Monroe. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Detroit Sulphite Pulp and Paper Company for about thirty years.

He was earlier actively interested in banking circles in Kalamazoo, having served on Boards of Directors of both Kalamazoo National Bank and the Home Savings Bank for a period of several years each.

In 1913 Dr. Upjohn took a post graduate course



in the medical school of the University of Michigan, following which he resumed the practice of medicine in Kalamazoo, continuing for a period of eight years, when he retired.

In 1924, upon returning from Europe he found his friends had filed his petition for the nomination to the State Legislature to represent the city of Kalamazoo, and he had only one day to declare his intentions to accept the nomination if offered. He was nominated and elected by a large majority vote, and continued to serve for two terms in the House of Representatives when he was chosen to represent the Sixth District of Michigan in the State Senate where he continued for three terms, making a total of ten years' legislative experience. He greatly enjoyed these legislative contacts and gave himself wholeheartedly to the work, served repeatedly on the Finance and Appropriation Committee of the Senate and was usually Chairman of Public Health Committee.

His familiarity with medical matters made him particularly interested in health problems of the State, in which he became a leader. After three determined, successful efforts in three different legislative sessions, he succeeded in securing the erection of a Tuberculosis Unit in connection with the great University Hospital at Ann Arbor. In one



instance the appropriation, \$500,000 was never released by the Administrative Board; the second time the Govenor vetoed the measure; and the third time he succeeded in getting appropriation for the improvement in the Budget Bill and securing its passage, with the result that the money was released and the building erected.

This effort led to great improvement in the treatment of tuberculosis in our State by placing the care of these cases in the hands of men with better research ability. The net effect of the change of policy has within a few years resulted in nearly 40% reduction in the death rate from tuberculosis in Michigan.

During his legislative experience Dr. Upjohn was known as one who would not trade votes, and could always be depended upon to vote his conscience in the interests of his State. He fully realized the sacredness of his oath of office and tried conscientiously to be true to that oath.

In 1934 Dr. Upjohn ran for Congress to represent the Third Congressional District, comprising five counties, and was defeated in the Primary Election by 130 votes.

Dr. Upjohn was a charter member of the Kiwanis Club and its first president and was a very active



and influential member for many years.

Dr. Upjohn united with the Presbyterian Church in Richland when a boy and later his membership was transferred to the First Presbyterian Church in Kalamazoo. He refers to his father and mother with great reverence and respect and deeply cherishes their memory. When approached with a view to including his story in this collection, he replied, presenting a photograph of his father, "I would much prefer to have this man included." He then found a photograph of his mother and arranged that she should also be included in this collection.

Dr. Upjohn has been a man of abstemious habits during his entire life, a strong supporter of the anti-saloon league and the 18th Amendment to the Federal Constitution. When the State of Michigan was laboring in the Legislature to provide a means of holding a Constitutional Convention for the purpose of ratifying the Congressional repeal measure, to repeal the 18th Amendment, and again place our country back in the liquor business, Dr. Upjohn voiced his position in the matter by appealing to the Senate in an address when the bill was up for final passage, as follows:

"Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Senate:

"I know I am pleading a lost cause. I know



that the 18th Amendment is on the skids and will be repealed. I also know that what I say now will not change one vote in this body regarding the matter.

"I cannot, however, let this moment pass without briefly expressing my convictions. YOU ALL KNOW HOW DRY I AM. I want you to know that I am not to blame, neither do I deserve any credit whatever for being dry. It was a mere accident of birth. I happened to be born the youngest of twelve children, in the home of a pioneer country doctor with an extensive practice over several counties in southwestern Michigan.

"The mother of this large family was just so decent that we were all trained to avoid the use of alcoholics, and I never saw a member of that family under the influence of alcohol. It just was not done in our home. Later on when that mother had grown from a country doctor's wife to the wife of a prominent city physician and lived in her own goodly home in the goodly city of Kalamazoo, I have seen her many nights leave that home and with other Christian women -- the Crusaders -- go to the saloons of that city and kneel in the dirty sawdust of those dirty saloons and pray for their redemption.

"Now, Gentlemen of the Senate, I cannot desert the traditions and teachings of that old mother, long since gone to her reward. Rather let me here and now pay a tribute to her memory. That mother was right, eternally right. We can never drink ourselves into prosperity.

"I shall vote "no" on every aspect of this Bill, and every other measure that involves our state and nation in the sale or manufacture of intoxicating beverages. Today we are turning back the clock in this state more than twenty years. You know where to find me and why. I thank you."

Under date of November 7, 1935 Mr. Verner W. Main, soon after elected representative in the United States Congress wrote as follows:



"Dr. Upjohn has been a source of inspiration and guidance to me ever since we were associated in the work of the House of Representatives at Lansing. We discovered then that we shared the same views on many subjects of legislative interest. Nothing that came to me out of my experiences at Lansing has brought any greater satisfaction than the resulting friendship with Dr. Upjohn."

"Dr. Upjohn has stood valiantly for that which he believed to be right and for the good of mankind and has successfully managed large enterprises besides building and maintaining a large medical practice. He is a citizen in whom the City of Kalamazoo and the State of Michigan takes pride and his name stands high on the roll of honored citizens."--R. E. Meader.

Dr. James T. Upjohn died at his home, 229 Stuart Avenue, after a heart attack about 7 o'clock on Saturday evening, January 18, 1936. Funeral services were conducted by the Reverend John Wirt Dunning, at the home, and burial was at Mountain Home Cemetery.





25. *J. Robinson*

Maria Mills Upjohn

## M A R I A   M I L L S   U P J O H N

Miss Maria Mills, the youngest daughter of Clarissa Porter and Deacon Simeon Mills, of Richland, was born December 11, 1821, at Orangeville, Wyoming county, New York. Her father's family removed from Orangeville to Ann Arbor, Michigan, in 1826, and to Gull Prairie, Kalamazoo county, in 1831, where most of her life in Michigan was spent. When young she was converted by the preaching of Reverend Luther Humphrey at her home on the Prairie. September 15, 1837, she was married in Richland, to Dr. Uriah Upjohn; and died at her home in that place of typhoid pneumonia, on the 17th of February, 1882, in the 60th year of her age. Thus with the exception of a few years, her life in this State was spent at the family home on Gull Prairie. During the pioneer days--that ordeal period in which the noblest characters were developed, Mrs. Upjohn was the faithful wife and mother to her large family. Ever hopeful amid severe trials and faithful in expedients, she was of great aid and comfort to her husband who was for so many years the only physician in the new settlement. The spirit of perseverance and thrift pervaded her household. It was here, amid the hardships of those



early days, that her best qualities were displayed; it was here that her industry brought her family through the hard times; that her fortitude stayed them; that her frugality lengthened out their small stores; that her cheerfulness brightened the dark hours; that her courage brought comfort and hope in sickness and distress.

There were twelve children, seven daughters and five sons, eleven of whom grew to adult years.

Helen Maria the oldest, born February 24, 1839, was graduated from the medical department of the university at Ann Arbor. She was married to Hugh Kirkland in November 1875, and practiced her profession in Kalamazoo. She died November 5, 1901.

Mary N. graduated in the Pharmacy class at the University; is now Mrs. William Sidnam, and lives at 415 Pearl Street, Kalamazoo.

Alice, educated at the Seminary on Gull Prairie, and at the Normal School at Ypsilanti, and at the Woman's College in Evanston, Illinois, was married to Reverend Wright Barrett, of the Methodist Episcopal Church August 25, 1862. Mr. Barrett was a member of the Michigan Methodist Conference. Alice was born November 13, 1841 and died October 14, 1920.

Henry U., born July 22, 1843, received his



diploma of M. D. from the Medical department of the University of Michigan and practiced his profession in Kalamazoo. On December 18, 1872, he was married to Millie, a graduate from the Medical department of the University and the daughter of William G. Kirby, of Charleston township, Kalamazoo County. Henry died January 2, 1887.

Virginia, born February 2, 1845, was a very beautiful singer and also played the piano. She died July 8, 1870, while the family was living at Galesburg.

Amelia, born June 22, 1848, graduated in the Pharmacy class of the State University. On September 30, 1874, she was united in marriage to Dr. Archibald Campbell, of Fulton, Ohio, at which place she died on January 29, 1876.

Sarah, born February 17, 1850, was educated at Ann Arbor. She married Rev. John Redpath, Presbyterian minister, on December 5, 1877, and died April 28, 1908.

Ida, born September 20, 1851, was educated at the Union School in Ann Arbor. She was married on July 26, 1873 to James Hayward, who graduated as civil engineer from the University of Michigan and was drowned in the Gulf of Mexico while in the



United States service. His wife died in Kalamazoo on April 26, 1876.

William E., graduated from the Medical department of the University. He married Rachel, daughter of Dr. I. J. Babcock, of Kalamazoo.

Frederick L. was born May 19, 1857, and was married to Lelia Watson Shelby on May 16, 1896. He died December 1, 1917. Frederick and James attended the Union School in Kalamazoo. Frederick pursued a course in pharmacy in Philadelphia. James also graduated in medicine from the University of Michigan.

A son was born on June 10, 1855 and died on February 19, 1856 without being given a name.

Deacon Willard Mills a brother to Simeon Mills, the father of Maria Mills has written an account of the pioneer experiences of the Mills family and the manuscript is filed in the Kalamazoo public library.

The mother of Maria Mills Upjohn was Clarissa Porter, who was born March 24, 1793 and married Simeon Mills January 12, 1874.





We Updike



## WILLIAM ERASTUS UPJOHN

William Erastus Upjohn was born in Richland Township, Kalamazoo County, Michigan, June 5, 1853, the son of Dr. Uriah Upjohn, born September 7, 1808, - died in November, 1896, and Maria Mills Upjohn. His maternal grandfather, Simeon Mills, removed to Michigan in 1826 from Litchfield, Connecticut, where he was born February 4, 1795. Upon his arrival in Michigan he erected the first frame house in Richland Township and served as assessor of the Village of Bronson (now City of Kalamazoo) in 1832, and was for some time overseer of highways. Dr. Uriah Upjohn, a native of Shaftesbury, England, came to the United States in 1828 and was graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York City March 25, 1834, and located in Kalamazoo, Michigan in 1835 and won a place among the pioneer physicians of the State. He had twelve children, several of whom became physicians.

Dr. William E. Upjohn, after public school education and a preliminary course in the Chemistry and Pharmacy Departments of the University of Michigan, entered the University of Michigan Medical Department and received the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1875.



He established himself in the practice of medicine at Hastings, Michigan, and practiced successfully for ten years. In 1885 he organized a pharmaceutical laboratory in Kalamazoo. He and his brother, Dr. Henry U. Upjohn, were associated in the Kalamazoo enterprise under the firm name of The Upjohn Pill and Granule Company. Subsequently, two younger brothers, Frederick L. Upjohn and Dr. James T. Upjohn, became associated with the firm. Dr. Henry Upjohn died soon after the business was established. Dr. William E. Upjohn had invented a new process for the manufacture of pills and granules, and the original corporate name was adopted as descriptive of the Company's products. The firm's business expanded rapidly and soon included a full line of pharmaceutical products. The name was changed in 1902 to The Upjohn Company, which bears a nationwide reputation among physicians and pharmacists. In 1909 Dr. Upjohn's brothers withdrew from the Company. Until May, 1930, Dr. William E. Upjohn was President of the Company. At that time he was elected Managing Director and Chairman of the Board of Directors.

During Dr. Upjohn's residence in Kalamazoo he took an active part in civic and public affairs,



giving both time and money in the furtherance of matters of public interest. He accepted the presidency of the Kalamazoo Chamber of Commerce in order to direct the charter revision program, and he was a leader in securing for Kalamazoo the commission form of government. Under Dr. Upjohn's direction as President of the charter commission, a city charter was prepared which has since been widely accepted as a model commission-manager plan for city government. He was elected a member of the first commission under the new charter, served as the first mayor under the plan, and evidenced sound judgment and vision in administering civic affairs. Prior to these activities he had served as alderman.

Kalamazoo benefited by Dr. Upjohn's generosity. Two evidences of his interest in the city are Upjohn Park, which was contributed by him to the city, and the Civic Auditorium.

Dr. Upjohn was married twice. December 24, 1878, he married Rachel Babcock, daughter of Dr. I. J. Babcock, a physician and druggist of Kalamazoo. Of this marriage there were four children. A daughter, Winifred Rachel Upjohn, married Dr. S. Rudolph Light, and died April 18, 1929. A son, William Harold Upjohn,

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years to bring the internal. He succeeded in his  
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in the interest of the city the  
and was concerned with the city, and  
the Civil Administration.

By 1878 Mr. Upton was married wife  
and L. L. D. to her husband of Dr. L. L. D.  
and married his son to the Italiano  
-book a publication by himself to the  
-man. A daughter, Miss  
marriage that were lowly situated, and  
was born in 1851, and died in 1878.

was Secretary and General Manager of The Upjohn Company at the time of his death, October 15, 1928. Two daughters survive, Dorothy Upjohn, now Mrs. H. Allan DeLano of Kalamazoo, and Genevieve Upjohn, now Mrs. Donald S. Gilmore of Kalamazoo. Mrs. Rachel Babcock died in 1905. On October 25, 1913 Dr. Upjohn was married to Mrs. Carrie Sherwood Gilmore, widow of James F. Gilmore, a prominent Kalamazoo merchant.

Dr. Upjohn was affiliated with the Congregational Church and with numerous clubs in Kalamazoo and Pasadena, California. He was a fancier of fine flowers and a member of the American Peony Society, having served as its Treasurer. He found recreation in golf. His fine appreciation of art was evidenced by his choice of representative pieces of European art and oriental craftsmanship.

His Kalamazoo residence was at 530 West South Street. He had a winter home in Pasadena, California, and a country residence, - Brook Lodge - near Augusta, Michigan where he and Mrs. Upjohn had developed flower gardens of exceptional beauty. His death occurred here October 18, 1932.

(The foregoing was written in 1935)



Rachel Babcock Upjohn



R A C H E L   B A B C O O C K   U P J O H N

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Rachel Babcock was born in Galesburg, Michigan, May 26, 1856, third child of Isaiah Jordan Babcock and Mary Jane West Babcock. She came to Kalamazoo with her parents when a young girl and was educated in the public schools. She was very artistic and did much work in China painting as well as in oils and water colors.

She was married to Dr. W. E. Upjohn on Christmas Eve, 1878. Her first home was in Hastings, Michigan, where Dr. Upjohn was a practicing physician and surgeon and was experimenting with a new way to make pills and granules. When this method was perfected, the young couple came to Kalamazoo and bought a home on South Park street, later selling and buying the home at 530 West South street.

Mrs. Upjohn joined the First Congregational Church in Kalamazoo and took an active interest in the intellectual life of the city. She was a former president of both the Twentieth Century and the Ladies Library Clubs.



Mrs. Rachel Babcock Upjohn died on July 4, 1905, leaving four children, Rachel Winifred, William Harold, Dorothy and Genevieve.

#### An Appreciation

Hers was a personality singularly rich and full, womanly through and through. Character may be valued in terms of action, or in terms of being. Not what she did, though her activities were manifold, but what she was, is borne in upon the hearts of her many friends with ineffable sweetness and tenderness. Her beautiful face was but the outward symbol expressive of a spirit rare in simplicity and perfect in frankness. She never seemed, she always was. Her great heart could not but express itself in loving and gracious deeds - just as the sun must shine, or a flower must shed its perfume.

The note of unreality was always absent, because naturally and instinctively she lived in the presence of the true and the beautiful; she did not strain after them, but they possessed her. In her beautiful and gracious personality they found their appropriate incarnation and center of radiation. She so loved God's beautiful things, so like a child rejoiced in them, that through nature she continually looked up into God's face. The woods were her shrine, the hills her altar, the sky above her temple. Flowers, birds, clouds and wooded haunts were her "means of grace."

"These are the things I prize  
And hold of dearest worth:  
Light of the sapphire skies,  
Peace of the silent hills,  
Shelter of forests, comforts of the grass,  
Music of the birds, murmur of little rills,  
Shadow of clouds that swiftly pass,  
And after showers,  
The smell of flowers,  
And of the good brown earth,



And best of all, along the way, friendship  
and mirth."

Her friends who have retreated with her to Brook Lodge, sharing her sweet and simple-hearted hospitality, know now what "The Garden of the Lord" means, ministering love and sympathy at the flood, environed in natural beauty.

Eternal youth was hers in spirit. The child's joy and wonder just in being alive in God's good world was hers. She had no philosophy of life, no program, she just followed a heart so normal, so pure, so generous, and womanly withal, that she blessed herself and all her friends. With her the natural thing was the right thing.

Such a spirit was necessarily catholic. She had something in common with all sorts and conditions. Such breadth and depth of feeling could find the human in every situation. She was always losing her life in some kindly thought and deed, as unpremeditated as the song of a bird, and in turn finding her life in accordance with God's rare reciprocity enlarged, enriched a thousand fold. Her acquaintances became friends, who were so privileged as to see and know her in the home circle, became her lovers. She lived in her friends, her children, and her husband with whom she walked twenty-six beautiful years, lovers at the first and "lovers always."

Farewell! A little time, and we  
Who knew thee well, and loved thee here,  
One after one shall follow thee  
As pilgrims through the gate of fear,  
Which opens on eternity.  
Yet shall we cherish not the less  
All that is left our hearts meanwhile;  
The memory of thy loveliness  
Shall round our earthly pathway smile,  
Like moonlight when the sun has set,-  
A sweet and tender radiance yet.  
Thoughts of thy clear-eyed sense of duty,  
Thy generous scorn of all things wrong,-



The truth, the strength, the graceful beauty  
Which blended in thy song.  
All lovely things, by thee beloved,  
Shall whisper to our hearts of thee;  
These green hills, where thy childhood roved,-  
Yon river winding to the sea, -  
The sunset light of autumn eves  
Reflecting on the deep, still floods,  
Cloud, crimson sky, and trembling leaves  
Of rain-bow tinted woods, -  
These, in our view, shall henceforth take  
A tender meaning for thy sake;  
And all thou lovedst of earth and sky,  
Seem sacred to thy memory.





H. H. Robinson

Uriah Upjohn

## U R I A H   U P J O H N

Uriah Upjohn was one of a trio of Englishmen who came from approximately the same neighborhood in England, yet never consciously met there, but found themselves and each other as settlers in Kalamazoo. The other two pioneers were W. G. Dewing and Henry Bishop.

A picture lies before me of a fine old mansion, with its spacious and beautiful grounds, in Shaftsbury, Dorsetshire, England, from which youthful Uriah at the age of twenty exiled himself to come to this country, thinking it might be better for his family to come to a new country to build up their fortunes. Uriah had in the father an example of sacrifice. The father was of a Quaker family but drifted into the Congregational sect of dissenters from the popular church, and was minister and preacher to that church in Shaftsbury, where he lived, for forty years without receiving any salary, retaining the old Quaker principle that a spiritual ministry should not be paid for in money. The father was a civil engineer or surveyor of lands and estates, a profession which brought him into association with the most educated and cultivated classes in England. As an assistant



to his father Uriah helped to survey the first railroad ever built in England; it was that from London to Exeter. Uriah was the ninth of twelve children, all carefully educated with an education which continued and increased until old age.

Many in the family had a special taste for music, and had been carefully trained in it. They owed much to their mother, who was a remarkable woman, from one of the first families in England, the great Devon family, from which the shire had its name.

#### HIS CAREER IN AMERICA

Uriah Upjohn came to this country when he was twenty years old, in 1828, accompanied by his brother William, older than himself. Between these brothers, later both eminent in the medical profession, there existed a friendship dearer than kinship, and lasting as life. As the brothers came for the sake of the family they spent the summer after their arrival in New York, traveling much of the time on horse-back through various parts of the country with a view to find a suitable place for others of the family to settle. The following winter Uriah taught school among the Shakers in western New York. During this time Uriah used his opportunities for making a more extended acquaintance with the country, seek-



ing a place which would offer inducements for the emigration of the family still remaining in comfort and luxury in the old home. During this same winter William taught school in Virginia.

In the spring Uriah went back for the family and returned with them and saw them settled in Greenbush, New York. While residing there Uriah began the study of medicine with Dr. Hale, a man eminent in his profession and also of high social standing.

After a year of study with Dr. Hale, Uriah went to the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York, taking there a full course in surgery and anatomy under Prof. Alden, a man noted for his learning and skill, and in April, 1835, Uriah graduated with the very highest commendations from the celebrated Dr. Valentine Mott of New Jersey.

For a short time after graduation Dr. Uriah Upjohn practiced medicine in western New York, and, in 1835, he, with his brother William, started for the west, crossed Lake Erie in a steamer, came from Detroit on horse-back through the woods of Michigan, then little invaded by civilization, until they pitched their tent and built a log house in the town of Richland on Gull Prairie, which then seemed, as its name denotes, a veritable land of Canaan in richness, to the emigrants who had already preempted there, of



far greater promise then, than Kalamazoo. Here the two brothers commenced practice together and Dr. Uriah married Maria Mills, daughter of Deacon Simeon Mills, who turned the first furrow on Gull Prairie and called the place "Richland." Deacon Mills was one of the founders of the Presbyterian Church in Richland. Mrs. Upjohn died in 1882, forty-five years after her marriage to Dr. Uriah Upjohn.

#### HIS GREAT GENEROSITY

If a man gave twenty or fifty thousand dollars to build a church or found a benevolent institution his name would be heralded throughout the country, but what is such giving in comparison with the giving of Dr. Uriah Upjohn during twenty-five or thirty years of his early practice in this state. Besides thousands of dollars in money given for medicines and spent in horse-flesh, he gave himself daily to the sick and suffering and the poor of this county and far beyond the boundaries of this county. When quinine was eight to ten dollars an ounce it was no uncommon thing for Dr. Uriah Upjohn to deal out without money and without price an ounce a day or even in one ride.

Dr. Uriah Upjohn told of heart-breaking scenes of want and suffering in the earlier years of his



practice. Often he was called to make a fifty mile ride on horse-back to see a patient or a whole family, down perhaps with intermittent fever or typhoid and so sick that when he arrived no one could say, 'Come in' loud enough to be heard.

#### NOMINATED TO CONGRESS

In 1852 Dr. Uriah Upjohn was nominated to congress by the party known as 'Free Democracy,' but a few days before the election he published the following:

"TO THE FREE DEMOCRACY OF THE THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

Upon a personal interview with Henry R. Williams, the Whig nominee for Congress in this Congressional District, on the 29th of October, 1852, it being the first opportunity I have had of conversing with him since my nomination by the Free Democracy, Mr. Williams fully and explicitly declared to me

1st. That he is in favor of the extermination of slavery wherever the general government has the power

2d. That if elected to Congress he will oppose the admission of any more Slave States or Slave Territories.

3d. That he is in favor of the repeal of the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850.

4th. That he does not assent to the finality of the Acts known as the Compromise.

Feeling that the success of the principles of the party to which I am attached, is of more importance than party names or ties, I feel it my duty, with the advice of such Free Soil friends as I have been able to consult, in the limited time since such interview, therefore, to decline being longer the candidate for the office to which I have been nominated by my



friends in their last Congressional Convention; and being fully satisfied with Mr. Williams' views on the subjects herein named, I advise the Free Democracy of this District to give him their united support.

URIAH UPJOHN

Richland, Monday Morning, November 1, 1852."

#### A FAMILY OF PHYSICIANS

The family of Uriah Upjohn must have had a bent towards the study and practice of medicine, for of his twelve children, eleven of whom grew to maturity, six completed a full course of medicinal or pharmaceutical study in the University of Michigan. There must also have been a fine artistic talent in the family as a map drawn by Uriah's father attests. The map was drawn on parchment and was of the town in England from which the family came. The artist was 86 years of age when he drew it and it is as remarkable piece of work as may be found.

At the age of 86 Dr. Uriah Upjohn had retired from active practice but was sometimes consulted in peculiar cases. He continued to be greatly interested in all new discoveries of medical science and went daily to his office, the Upjohn Pill and Granule Company's building on Lovell Street, where he read the books and magazines of latest issue. In politics Dr. Uriah Upjohn was a Republican and in

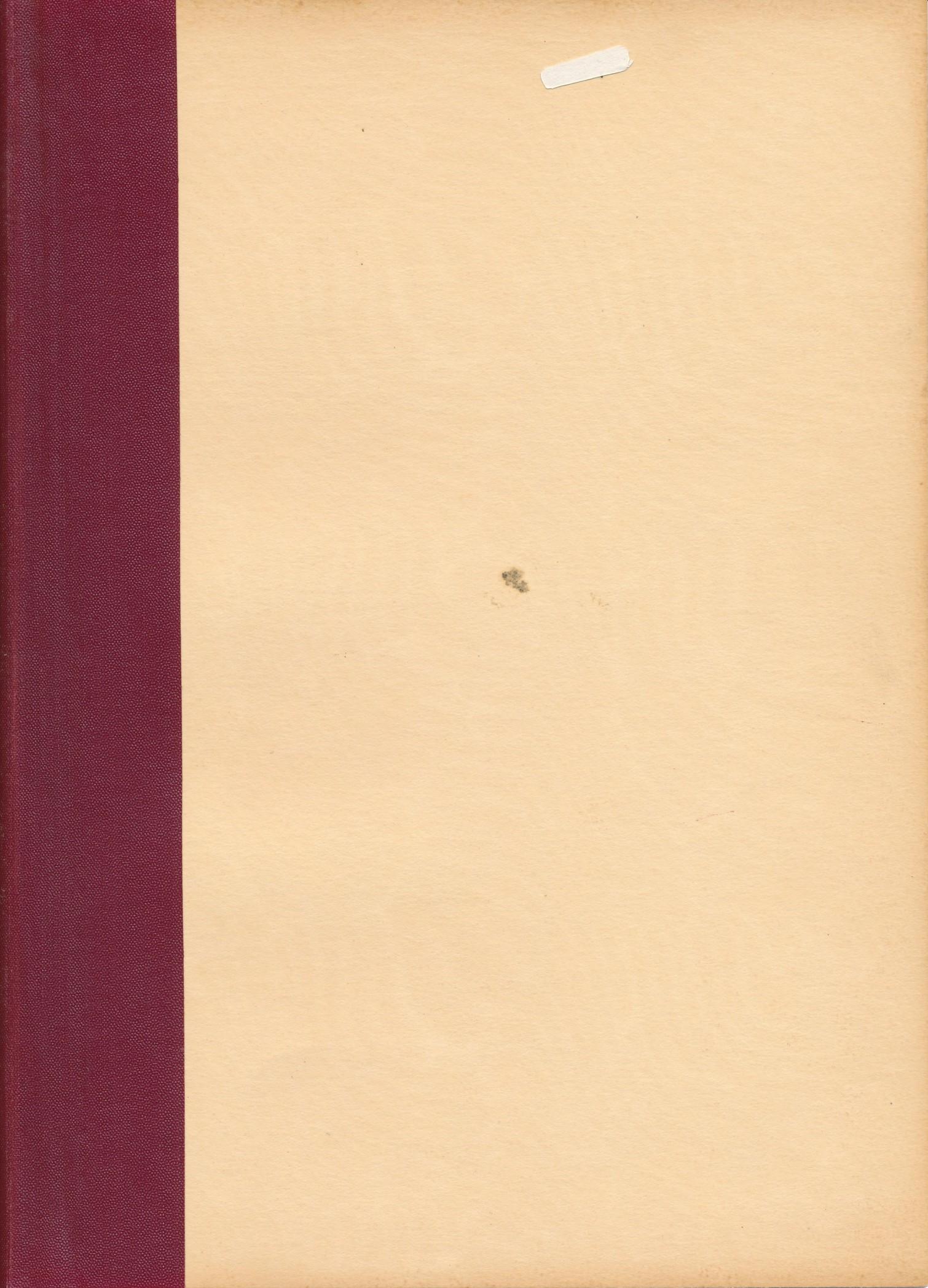


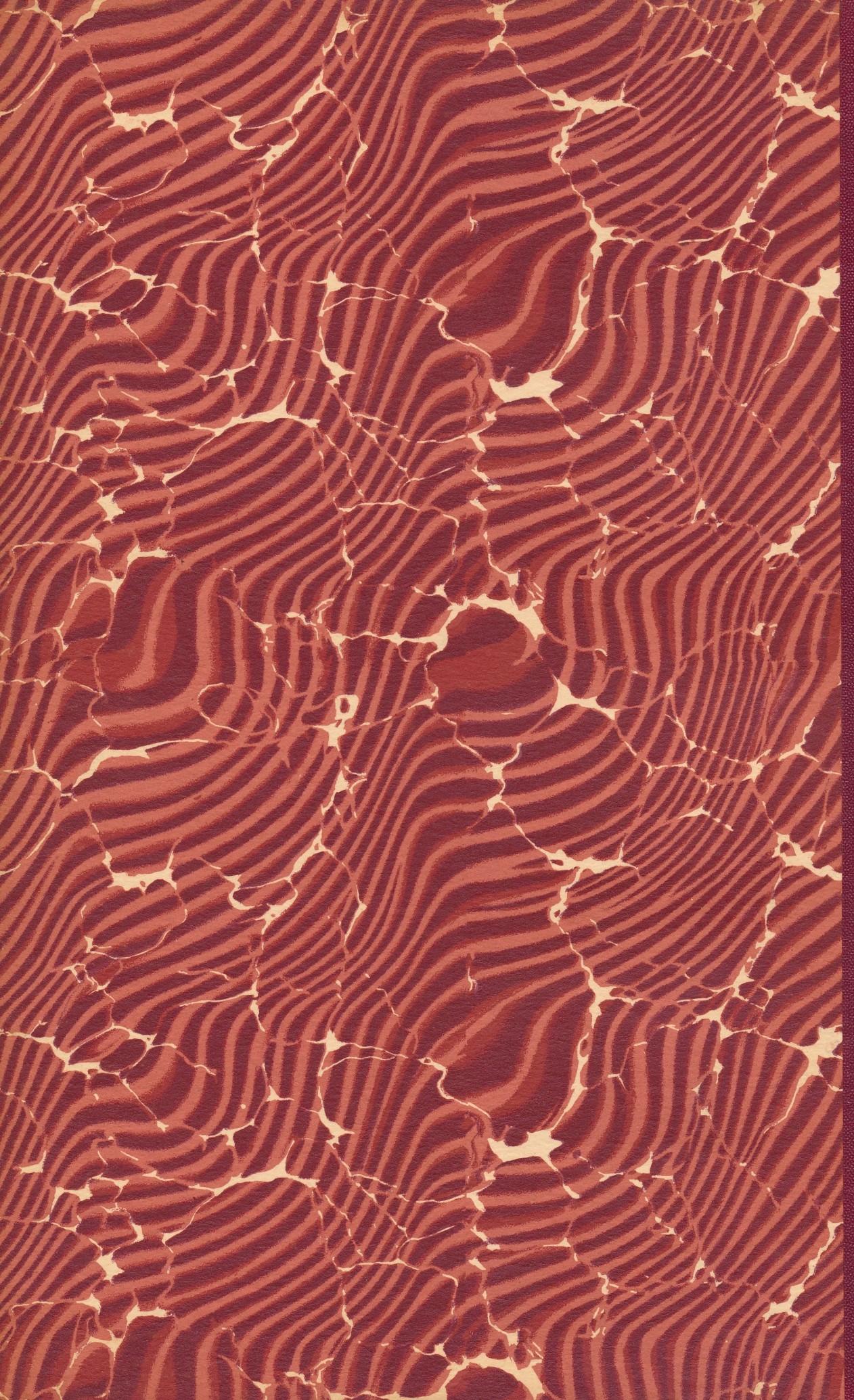
religion liberal. He had much of the Quaker belief  
that religion is a life rather than a creed.

Dr. Upjohn died in Kalamazoo November 23, 1896.

(The above was copied from an article in a  
Kalamazoo Newspaper of December 15, 1894  
written by Lucinda Hinsdale Stone and cor-  
rected and amended by Dr. James T. Upjohn).

Talleg verianc odd te dene han el. Latrodil noisill  
heort a maff hentet will a et hollifer dene  
sæci. Ðe neðmawolf oððanwilef ni heort mægda  
a et a foldre na mæt heigðr sunn eðru en.  
Læsi. Ði neðmawolf to neðmawolf oððanwilef  
-tos hna swaða eldswið abnloðr vð meðin  
lætloðr. T samst vð heðnana hna næfðar









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